

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Overland Trade Report.

Vol. LXVIII.]

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BIRTH.

On the 24th November, the wife of P. NALIN, of a daughter.

At Kobe, on the 21st instant, the wife of JAS. L. ROBERTSON, of a daughter.

At Victoria Hospital, Peak, on the 30th November, 1908, the wife of E. W. HAZELAND, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

At Christ Church, Colombo, on 30th November, CHARLES GORDON STEWART, youngest son of the late Dr. JOHN MACKIE of Brechin, to GERTRUDE IRENE, youngest daughter of the late JAMES GUTHRIE of Hope Park, Broughty Ferry.

DEATHS.

On Tuesday, November 17th, at Shanghai, CARL BEHREND, Architect, aged 31 years.
At Bombay (by telegram) on the 23rd November, SORABJEE BYRAMJEE BHABHA, formerly of Hongkong.

ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The German Mail of the 4th ultimo, arrived per s.s. *Beulow* on the 3rd instant.

The French Mail arrived on the 7th inst. per s.s. *Ernest Simons*, with London dates to the 6th ult.

Hongkong Weekly Press.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VŒUX ROAD (C).
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FAR EASTERN NEWS.

The Hongkong Government has declared Singapore to be an infected port.

The Shanghai St. Andrew's Society postponed their annual ball until December 22nd owing to the incidence of the Chinese national mourning.

Mr. L. C. Hopkins, late British Consul General, at Tientsin, and Mr. H. Brady, of Chefoo, have retired from the service, after long and meritorious careers.

Two Metropolitan officials have been ordered to be sent to the New Dominion (Chinese Turkestan) to work on the military post roads there as convicts for entering the precincts of the Imperial Palace without permission.

In memory of the late Emperor and Dowager Empress of China, the Dead March in "Saul" was played at the close of the morning services at the Cathedral and Union Church Shanghai, last Sunday, the respective congregations up-standing.

Hankow papers report the death of Dr. Ph. Spruyt, which took place in Brussels from pleurisy. It appears that the deceased left the Continent to return to Hankow. On the way out via Siberia, he was taken ill and had to return to Europe.

The American papers in Manila condemn Admiral Sperry in unmeasured terms for his "avoidance of the decencies of social intercourse" at Manila, and for his "absurd insults to the Governor-General, the Army, and the Americans resident in the Philippines."

Admiral Sperry, after declining to allow the men of his fleet shore leave, finally consented to allow the men to disembark in squads under the command of their petty officers, provided he obtained the approval of the Naval Department at Washington. The Fleet left Manila on the 1st inst.

The death took place by drowning at Hankow on the 17th inst. of Mr. Devereux of the I. M. Customs. The deceased was very near sighted and while walking near the race course he is supposed to have fallen into a deep pond and was drowned. The body was later recovered and an inquest was held. The deceased was well known at several ports.

The Shanghai Taotai has made loans amounting to Taels 3,000,000, to various Chinese Banks throughout the Settlement and the Nantao District. The placing of this large sum in the current accounts of these banks, says a Shanghai contemporary, has done much to relieve the financial stringency, and great credit is due to the Taotai for his prompt and efficient action in this matter.

Sir Alexander Hosie, C.M.G., the British Commercial Attaché at Peking, strongly recommends the British manufacturer and merchant to study carefully the "Analysis of Foreign Trade" now published annually by the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs. The tables which these volumes contain, he says, will impart more information regarding the foreign trade of China than hundreds of pages in writing.

The trial of Chang, one of the Korean assassins of Mr. D. W. Stevens, began on Nov. 16th in San Francisco.

In his command orders, dated Tientsin Nov. 18th, General Waters says:—On the melancholy occasion of the death of His Majesty the Emperor and Her Majesty the Dowager Empress, Officers of the North China Command will wear, when in uniform, a band of black crape round the left arm as prescribed by the Regulations. The mourning will be continued until the 21st November. Officers will abstain from attending public functions, no bands will play, and flags will fly, at halfmast, until 11th December, inclusive.

The fact that the Public Works Department in Tonkin had set local industrial interests aside by getting out a steamboat from Hongkong has created much comment at Haiphong. The steamer was built by Chinese shipwrights at Hongkong. The Department secured it from the agent of a Hongkong Chinese Syndicate for \$116,000, of which \$86,000 went to the builders, says the "Avenir du Tonkin." That journal criticises sharply the Department for giving the work to foreigners, instead of to the shipbuilding yards at Haiphong and Saigon, which can turn out a similar class of vessel any day.

A determined fight, we learn from a Manila contemporary, is to be made by the Manila Merchants' Association against the adoption in the Philippine islands of the metric system. The whole matter has been referred to the legislative committee. The American merchants are, in the main, opposed to it, while the Filipino tradesmen feel that they would be lost beyond recovery in the intricacies of what seems to them a needless substitute of a well understood system already in general use. The promise of the Governor-General to meet the business public half way in the proposition is regarded as encouraging.

Mr. Richard Markwick, who had for many years been connected with the China Mutual Insurance Company at Shanghai shot himself on Friday morning last. The deceased was in Hongkong in 1861, and had been a resident of Shanghai since 1883. Almost from the time that the China Mutual Insurance Company came into being he was employed by the firm, and although for a short period he joined the service of the Shanghai Life Insurance Company, he afterwards returned to his previous employment. Mr. Markwick had been ill since the middle of September and had been away from the office since that time.

The Shanghai Mercury reports an amusing incident which occurred in the Settlement the other day. A short time ago a new factory for the manufacture of socks started in rivalry to an old established institution, and between the two the greatest bitterness prevailed. Then the elder establishment took action, and by way of hitting at their competitors the managers had a series of attractive globes get up before the works. On these were printed various animals, but in place of their heads were printed the heads of the promoters of the rival concern along with various remarks upon them, all more or less uncomplimentary. Such a display had its effect, and within a short time of the appearance of the caricatures a free fight occurred between the workers in the different factories. This was not quelled until the police appeared on the scene, and it was found necessary to put the ringleaders under arrest.

Sir Alexander Hosie, H.M. Commercial Attaché in Peking, intends spending a short time in Hongkong before the Opium Conference is opened.

The German A. D. C. at Shanghai were to give a second performance of *Das Stiftungsfest*, the piece so successfully staged by the *Deutscher Theater-Verein* at the Lyceum Theatre last week.

On November 18th at Tientsin about 10,000, children, from the Tientsin City Native Schools, were assembled together with their teachers at the Viceroy's Yamen in order to proclaim the new Emperor. Spectators state that the sight was a very interesting and novel one.

A murderous attempt by a Chinese coolie upon Miss Gall, the daughter of a well known French Municipal employee at Tientsin is reported in the Northern papers. It appears that the boy is a discharged servant and made his way into the girl's bedroom and first throttled her, and then also cut her face about with a knife. The man fled but was captured and has been identified by his victim, who is in a very bad way from the numerous wounds received.

Mr. F. W. Maze, Commissioner of Customs at Tengyueh, on the Burma Frontier, has been granted two years' leave of absence and will proceed to Europe at the close of the year after having spent two years and a half at his present isolated post. Before serving at Tengyueh Mr. Maze was in charge of the Kongmoon Customs where, it will be remembered, he opened the Custom House in March 1904 upon Kongmoon being made a Treaty Port.

A curious decision was given by a Magistrate at Singapore in a "dumping" case last month. A Macao man and woman were charged with dumping the dead body of a Chinaman in the People's Park. The evidence showed that the woman was sitting in the ricksha with the body and the man was between the shafts. The Magistrate held that the Park was not included in the list of places where it was forbidden to dump corpses, and the accused were accordingly acquitted.

November 25th was observed at Shanghai as a special occasion of mourning for the deaths of the Emperor and Empress Dowager, and besides the flags of the various Consulates many of the hongs also flew their flags at half mast. The banks, native and foreign, were closed as were also many native shops and stores, especially in Nanking Road, and the Custom House concluded business at noon, but otherwise business proceeded much as usual. From the Settlement all the officials proceeded to the City to take part in the funeral rites which were there observed, and in consequence of the Magistrates' absence the Mixed Court had again to suspend business.

The Grand Secretariat early in the present month resolved to order the prohibition of all lotteries in the Empire at the end of the current month. The original intention in starting lotteries, it is stated, was to increase the revenue. So many new lotteries had now come into existence that this had become the worst form of gambling in the Empire. Their Excellencies came to the conclusion that lotteries were demoralising the people, and led to robbery and other crimes. We may well doubt whether the order of the Grand Secretariat will be obeyed. In the North, at any rate, lotteries for December are openly advertised.

An extraordinary incident is reported in the *Seoul Press*, showing how in parts of Korea human flesh is believed to be of medicinal value. —a belief, remarks the *Japan Chronicle*, that has not yet been wholly banished among the most ignorant classes in Japan. Our contemporary says it is reported that a young woman, twenty-three years of age, the wife of Kim Chinwoo, living at Sam-tong-li, Yang-sam district, South Kyongsang-do, gave a piece of human flesh to her sick husband as medicine, cutting it from her own thigh, in order to cure the rheumatism from which he has been suffering for the past six years. Since eating it he seems to have improved remarkably, so doubtless his wife thinks she has been amply rewarded for her sacrifice. It is said that the villagers, being greatly impressed by Mrs. Kim's unusual faithfulness to her husband, have asked the magistrate to reward her.

The Portuguese Chargé d'Affaires in Peking has agreed to cancel the Canton-Macao Railway Agreement entered into by Sheng Kung Pao and the Portuguese Minister on certain conditions, the principal of which is that the regulations as to fares on the railway to be built under the sole control of China shall be settled by an Agreement between China and Portugal.

Marquis Katsura, the Japanese Prime Minister, has stated with reference to the question of reducing the Japanese force in Pehchili, that notice of that intention having been duly conveyed to the Chinese Government, and there being no sign of any commotion such as would militate against the carrying out of the programme, the Government's resolve is to proceed with the operation. China has troops enough of her own to deal with any disturbance, and a recurrence of such events as those of 1900 cannot and need not be expected. For the rest, if any occasion should arise for the employment of foreign troops, Japan has forces in Manchuria and Korea, which would be available at any moment.

During the past fiscal year 1,686,767 vaccinations against smallpox were made in the Philippine islands by agents of the Bureau of Health, to say nothing of the thousands made by private physicians. According to the last annual report of the Secretary of the Interior the administration of this work has been so improved that its cost is now approximately two and a half centavos per capita as against seven and a half centavos a few years ago. "It is a remarkable fact," says the Secretary of the Interior, "and one that bears eloquent testimony to the care used by the Bureau of Science in manufacturing vaccine, and by the Bureau of Health in using it, that not a single death has occurred as a result of this enormous number of vaccinations, especially when the results obtained in other countries under more favourable conditions are considered."

Mr. Arias, Consul-General for Spain at Shanghai, has been recalled to Madrid to explain his action in cutting off the Chinese who were formerly registered in his Consulate and to whom he was unwilling to extend further Spanish protection. The action of Mr. Arias in this matter, says the *Shanghai Times*, met with the heartiest approval of the foreign community, and we are sure that it tended greatly to relieve many unpleasant occurrences in the Mixed Court. We learn that the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, as well as some Chinese officials, have asked the Wai-Wu-pu to represent to the Spanish Government the valuable services which Mr. Arias performed in this matter. It is sincerely to be hoped that for the good of Shanghai, this policy will not be reversed.

There was a very large assemblage of foreign residents at the American hatoba at Kobe recently to bid farewell to Mr. Alf. Woolley, the Chief Agent for Japan of the P. & O. Company, who left by the "Oriental" for England. Mr. Woolley who was formerly, in the company's service in Hongkong, has resided in Japan for a good many years, and has taken a very active part in the public life of the foreign communities, having been stationed both at Kobe and Yokohama. Latterly he held the post of Chairman of the Kobe Foreign Board of Trade and was also President of the Kobe Club, but whether he resided in Yokohama or Kobe, Mr. Woolley, remarks the *Japan Chronicle*, has always been foremost in rendering ungrudging service in the interests of the community. On the 19th ult. the members of the Kobe Club assembled at the Club to witness the presentation of a silver salver and tea service which had been subscribed for as a mark of respect and esteem. The presentation was made by Mr. H. Lucas, the President, who in a few appreciative words referred to Mr. Woolley's public work and his qualities as a private citizen. Woolley replied in a happy speech reminiscent of the years he had spent in Kobe and the affection he had for the place. As the launch left the hatoba the large crowd of foreigners gave three hearty cheers for Mr. and Mrs. Woolley. Whether Mr. Woolley will return to Japan is not, our contemporary believes, wholly assured, but it is quite certain that his return will be hoped for by a large circle of friends, and the *Chronicle* expresses the belief that if the choice lies with him he will decide for Japan, where he has made his home and rendered such excellent public service.

THE FUTURE OF THE PACIFIC.

(Daily Press, November 28th.)

In spite of mutual professions of the most cordial friendship among nations it seems to be the vogue everywhere to believe in the probability of the Pacific becoming at no far distant date, an international cockpit. While the prophets are agreed on this point they are strangely at variance upon the interesting question as to how the combatants are likely to be ranged in the fray. We have the KAISER's forecast in which the navies of the East are seen opposing the Fleets of the West. "Who can foresee" His MAJESTY said, "what may take place in the Pacific in the days to come, days not so distant as some believe, but days, at any rate, for which all European Powers with Far Eastern interests ought steadily to prepare? Look at the accomplished rise of Japan; think of the possible national awakening of China; and then judge of the vast problems of the Pacific. Only those Powers which have great navies will be listened to with respect, when the future of the Pacific comes to be solved; and if for that reason only Germany must have a powerful fleet. It may even be that England herself will be glad that Germany has a fleet when they speak together on the same side in the great debates of the future." It is interesting to contrast this view of the "vast problems of the Pacific" with that of a writer in the current number of the "United Service Magazine" who makes a plea for a naval understanding with the United States. It is premised in this article that the Anglo-Japanese Alliance will not be renewed when the existing agreement terminates in 1915, and we presume His Majesty the KAISER similarly regards a renewal of that alliance as impossible. "The cruise of Admiral SPERRY's squadron," says Mr. PERCIVAL HISLAM, the author of the Service magazine article "has definitely proved that a continuance of the Anglo-Japanese Treaty after its present term has expired is impossible." Why Mr. HISLAM should believe this we cannot understand except that it is necessary as a basis of the forecast he proceeds to elaborate. One might suppose from this remark that it was a case of Japan being off with the old love and on with the new. But, no; Japan, in Mr. HISLAM's view of the problems of the Pacific, will be hand in glove with Germany, and the United States is the object of their attack. Mr. HISLAM's idea is that the expansion of the German navy will prevent Great Britain giving adequate naval protection to Australia, New Zealand and her other possessions in the Pacific, should these be threatened at any time by Japanese forces. On the other hand the writer points out that America, standing alone would require an Atlantic fleet strong enough to safeguard her against Germany; while in the Pacific her fleet would require to keep in line with the rapidly-expanding navy of Japan. He dwells upon the enormous outlay the United States would have to face to maintain a strong fleet both in the Atlantic and the Pacific, and suggests a compact between Great Britain and the United States under which the latter would safeguard the Pacific while the latter guards the Atlantic. It is an interesting speculation no doubt, so long as nations continue to build warships, so long, we suppose, will there be international jealousy and suspicion. The day when the common-sense of most will hold a fearful realm in awe, and the kindly earth shall slumber lapt in universal peace, cannot be regarded as having arrived yet.

WESTERN EDUCATION IN CHINA.

(Daily Press, 30th November.)

It will be generally admitted that there are few men in China in a better position to offer an opinion on the educational progress of the country than are the missionaries who are scattered over the whole Empire and whose business inevitably brings them into close touch with the educational movement. Their contributions to our knowledge on this subject are always interesting and, so far as actual facts are related, they can hardly fail to be instructive; but we cannot say the same of many of the opinions they deduce from their facts. When CHANG CHIH TUNG, nine or ten years ago, published his notable plea for the popularising in China of Western learning in the arts and sciences, and advocated the sending of students abroad to study, he suggested sending them especially to Japan. Many thousands of selected Chinese students have passed through the schools and colleges of Japan during the last decade, and the education they have received apparently fills the missionaries with dismay. Scarcely an article is written or a speech made by a missionary on the educational question which does not express concern on the subject. It is a dismay clearly born of prejudice. The complaint is that the education imparted in Japan is entirely practical; that there is no "decidedly religious influence" in the schools, and consequently the education received is "calculated to raise up strenuous opposition to existing order and methods of government." Can that be considered a highly immoral result of education? Is it not the natural result of education; whether with or without the decidedly religious influence? If CHANG CHIH TUNG did not intend Western education to have that result, his plea for its encouragement was meaningless. "Among the Chinese," he wrote, "there is no incentive to thought or action, . . . and the condition of things has become stagnant and effete. Effeteness has begotten stupidity, and stupidity lethargy; lethargy has produced idleness and idleness waste." Again: "If we do not change soon, what will become of us? European knowledge will increase more and more, and Chinese stupidity will become more dense." If that is not a call for "strenuous opposition to the existing order of things" what does it mean? Happily the Government has recognised the need for radical reform of the existing order of things and these young men who have been chosen to receive an education abroad are destined to be largely employed in carrying out this great undertaking. We have no difficulty in believing that Chinese who acquire Western learning at home are as a class more docile and less impatient than those who have seen with their own eyes the fruits of that learning abroad; but we are hardly prepared to accept the statement that they are better men and better citizens because they have not been abroad. It is natural to expect that the young men who have studied in more advanced countries, and are consequently better able to appreciate what has to be accomplished in China before this great Empire can enter the comity of nations, should be more impatient and more strenuous in their opposition to the existing order of things. The missionary whose observations we have in mind in penning these few comments puts all the strenuousness and impatience down to an assumed absence of religious influence in the educational training of these

youths. It might on the contrary, and perhaps with far more justice, be said to show that the moral side of their education had not been neglected, and that they had learnt to hate injustice and evil in all its forms with a burning hate. CHANG CHIH TUNG when he wrote his plea for the encouragement of Western learning was as fully alive to the importance of moral training as is any educationist anywhere, and it cannot be said that the ethical side of education is neglected in Japan. The writer we have quoted goes so far as to say that the future of the country will turn on the issue of the struggle between the force of revolution inspired by "non-moral Western learning" and the force of orderly progress inspired by Christian ideals. By which of these is Dr. SUN YAT SEN inspired?

PEACE IN THE PACIFIC.

(Daily Press, 1st December.)

The agreement that Japan and the United States have entered into, amounting virtually to an alliance for the maintenance of the *status quo* in the Pacific as well as in China, is one of those surprises which the astute statesmen of Japan apparently delight in springing upon an unsuspecting world from time to time. Nowhere, we imagine, will the surprise be greater than in America itself where the *New York Herald* has for months past been telling the nation that Japan is the natural enemy of the United States as well as of China, and that it is the plain duty of the American Government to enter into an alliance with China by way of checking the aggressiveness of Japan. It is not at all unlikely that the agreement now announced is the direct outcome of this campaign of slander. The Japanese Government were admittedly much annoyed and it is no secret that letters passed between the two Governments breathing sentiments of the utmost friendliness and regard. What more natural than that this compact should result? When the Anglo-Japanese agreement was under discussion in the House of Commons the Under-Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the day made the memorable announcement that "We do not seek alliances; we grant them." That too may be regarded as America's attitude, and it is practically certain that this is an agreement of Japan's own seeking, in order to dispel in the most effective manner the suspicion in the minds of the American public regarding her aims in China and the Pacific. The reticence which has been maintained on the subject on both sides of the Pacific during the progress of the negotiations is, under the circumstances, somewhat remarkable, and has led to some strange inferences. A telegram which reached Japan last week from Berlin reported the rumour that the agreement had reference to a dynastic change in China—a report which seems to have provoked a denial from the Government of Japan in such terms as to convey the impression that no negotiations whatever were in progress. We must now assume that the denial covered only the rumour regarding the character of the negotiations. Though the precise terms of the agreement are not yet officially announced, the bare statement that the agreement is in the interests of peaceful development in the Pacific, is one of the best guarantees of peace that the world can have. England, Japan, Germany, France, Russia and the United States are all now definitely pledged to defend the maintenance of the *status quo* in the Far East, and, so far as international strife is

concerned, we can surely say that peace is absolutely assured. The agreement just concluded between Japan and the United States will be welcomed everywhere with satisfaction; for there has undoubtedly been a growing disposition to regard a war between Japan and the United States as inevitable, and much significance has been attached to the decision on the part of the United States to fortify and garrison the Hawaiian islands, and to strengthen the defences of the Pacific slope. But so far as this is inspired by fear of Japanese aggression, the calm student of affairs can well believe that it is all a delusion. Japan is not seeking further worlds to conquer. She has quite as much territory as she can afford the means to develop and her interests for many years must lie in the maintenance of peace and in the development of her industries, trade and commerce.

THE POSITION AT PEKING.

(Daily Press, December 2nd.)

The new Government at Peking, whatever may eventually prove to be its line of policy, has certainly, up to the present, displayed no lack of administrative efficiency, and the new reign starts with all the prestige of having surmounted the formidable initiatory difficulties attending a succession in the East, without a single false step. Indeed the very first act of the new administration—the arrest of the interfering eunuchs whose Court influence had been the bane of the latter days of the late Dowager Tse Hsi, was one well calculated to show that the incoming Regency well understood that first principle of successful government—the necessity of striking an early and decisive blow, before those elements of disorder that hang about a new accession had time to mature their plots. The promptness with which the reigning title for the new monarch was announced was a clear indication that all eventualities had been well considered beforehand, and the title itself, *Sun Tung* which may be paraphrased as "Keep moving," was probably intended, as it has been interpreted, to be an indication that promptitude and decision are meant to be the watchwords of the new régime; and that the principles of reformed administration, paraded, but not acted on, during the late reign, are really intended to be made features of the new régime. As we have frequently observed these doctrines of the responsibility of sovereigns and ministers to the will of the nation at large are of no modern growth in China. They were promulgated with no uncertain sound as long ago as the period of the early Sages, and have ever formed an important part of the constitutional law of the Empire. A certain disciple of Mencius is represented as thus addressing him:—"May I venture to ask regarding the presentation to heaven, and heaven's acceptance,—how it was laid before the people; accepted by them?" The teacher replied:—"The rulers were commissioned to a sacrifice, and the hosts of spirits received the offerings; this represented heaven's acceptance. Again, the rulers were commissioned to take in hand the affairs of government; when they ruled correctly, the people were at peace: this indicated the people's acceptance. As with heaven, so with the people. Therefore it is said, the *Ch'ientse* in dealing with the State cannot act merely as an individual." The inference to be drawn is that in his relations with the Empire, the ruler has higher duties to perform than those of a mere man, and must always bear in mind, that while his authority

is derived from Heaven direct, the mandate is only valid when exercised in accordance with the acceptance of the nation.

It is this doctrine of the sovereign's responsibility to his people, as the necessary correlative of his duty towards Heaven itself, that is largely answerable for the long stability of the Empire on the one hand, and on the other hand for the large measure of popular liberty which has always been enjoyed by the people of China as compared with other Asiatic nations. The effect of the mutual confidence thus engendered has lately been displayed in a very marked manner by the way in which the Chinese people at large have acted with regard to their intended constitution: with agitation, without disturbance of the peace, they have yet in their very persevering way compelled their rulers to go on so far, that now withdrawal has become practically impossible for either rulers or people; and those foremost in promoting the measures for making responsible government a practical success, are not the agitators, nor even the people at large, but the rulers who feel how immense their power and influence will be enhanced when backed up by the suffrages of the Empire at large. China, it used not long ago to be declared was a geographical expression, but not a people, its inhabitants caring nought for matters of state nor who ruled them, provided their personal comforts were not unduly interfered with. The last forty years have witnessed a vast change in the relations of the people to the State, and no people are more jealous of the dignity of the country than the Chinese of to-day, nor more willing to make sacrifices to restore its somewhat damaged prestige. This, they are wise enough to see, is not to be attained by strife nor revolution nor yet by armed strife. This feeling is not confined to one class, nor one interest, but is common to the nation at large, be the individuals rulers, or be they ruled. China has never been marked by the strife of classes: the highest offices have ever been open to all alike and even since the Manchus existed as a privileged class, the tendency has been to gradually relax these distinctions—a tendency, be it noted, shared to a large extent by the Manchus themselves. It is this lately arisen sensation of a common nationality that has prepared the mind of both to share a common Empire and has recalled the ancient ideas of the identity of interests between rulers and ruled, which the Manchu conquest for a time had concealed. These tendencies of modern China have been conspicuously apparent within the last few days in the practically universal exhibition of the outward signs of mourning for the late Empress Dowager and the Emperor. The late Emperor, at first probably from a feeling of sympathy for his helplessness and loneliness as a child in the midst of uncongenial surroundings, seemed early, notwithstanding his alien birth, to have become an object of more than mere passing interest to his subjects. This was emphasised into a feeling very much akin to personal loyalty, when he, of his own accord, endeavoured to draw nearer to his people by removing abuses which had gradually grown up in his Court; and above all showed plainly his desire to go finally away with the distinction which had separated Chinese and Manchus. The personal indignities that he had in consequence to undergo, appealed strongly to the growing feeling; and the reactionary policy of the late Empress Dowager, possibly forced on her from without, met with but little support from the Empire at large. But affairs were shaping themselves, and the

Dowager, grim and strong willed though she though was, yet found herself compelled to conform to the great current of popular opinion, and herself take the helm in guiding affairs along the new line of reform. The partial reconciliation that took place between young Emperor and Regent commended itself to the nation at large; who content with the fact that affairs were moving, yet apprehensive of undue haste, began to look kindly even on the Empress Regent. More lately the strong evidences that appeared as to the state of health of the Emperor, and the growing feeling that long life was forbidden to him, revived all the old feelings of personal regard, and there has been every evidence that the mourning which followed his untimely death is genuine, and deeply seated. Amongst a people like the Chinese at all times addicted to the suppression of what they considered merely private opinions and feelings, it is impossible to say how much of the mourning is to be interpreted as applying to the Dowager. Recently from her ability in handling the external affairs of the nation, it is undeniable that a strong feeling of respect for the abilities of a woman who has undoubtedly succeeded in raising the international status of China; and who within has laid the foundation of a new army and a new fleet, and by her choice of able administrators in the provinces done much to promote internal reform, has arisen amongst the nation at large. But it never seems, as it did in the case of the Emperor, to have expanded into personal affection. For long the Dowager Regent had refused to consider the imminence of an approaching dissolution, which was clear to her subjects, but this it might be urged was a failing common to the aged, whether rulers or commoners. Still, while apparently indifferent, she had, recently, at all events, been really taking very effective steps with regard to the succession; steps whose real import became evident, when at the last moment she declared the young son of PRINCE CHAU her apparent, with his father as Regent. Under ordinary conditions in an Asiatic monarchy the proclamation of a successor to the throne is fraught with danger to the State, owing to the absence of any definite rule of succession, but these difficulties she seems to have overcome at the last moment in a masterful manner, so that when the announcement was finally made, all the separate pieces appear quite naturally to have fallen into their several places. But like many other masterful rulers, what her genius for government had been able to effect for the Empire at large, her domestic weaknesses rendered impossible at home. The internal management of her own household was the one grave blot on an administration otherwise recalling that of the early monarchs of the line; and it will probably prove an event most fortunate for the Empire at large, that she did not survive the late Emperor sufficiently long to have the opportunity of introducing into the Court of his young successor, the numerous scandals which disgraced the last.

EMPEROR FRANCIS JOSEPH'S DIAMOND JUBILEE.

(Daily Press, December 3rd.)

Few monarchs in Europe enjoy in greater measure the admiration of the whole world than does the venerable Emperor of Austria and King of Hungary FRANCIS JOSEPH I who yesterday celebrated the attainment of the Diamond Jubilee of his reign. Ascend-

ing the Throne at the age of eighteen on the abdication of his uncle while the country was in the throes of a revolution there lay before the young Emperor a task demanding the highest qualities of statesmanship and the most resolute courage. A country a third larger than France had to be pacified, and good government and prosperity restored to more than thirty millions of human beings belonging to seventeen or eighteen different nationalities. In the manifesto announcing his accession, the Emperor promised to rule on the basis of true liberty, of the equality of the rights of the different populations comprising his empire, and indicated his intention to suppress the rebellions then raging throughout his Empire. We need not here recall the storms and perils of the reign. The outstanding fact is the courage and sagacity that has surmounted the gravest difficulties and brought peace to the realm and lasting benefit to all the lands subject to the venerable monarch's sceptre. In his private life the Emperor has been the victim of deplorable catastrophes, his wife, his brother and his only son having been destroyed by sudden and violent deaths. In labour he has found the panacea for all the ills of his life. Few men probably lead a busier life than the Emperor FRANCIS JOSEPH I. He is obliged to be in touch with two distinct Parliaments, the Hungarian and the Austrian. His labours have been described by one intimate with the Court in the following terms: "The Emperor has to consider and approve documents submitted to him by two Cabinets comprising no less than nineteen ministers, and to follow up, with each one of them, the transactions of their respective departments. He must direct the administration and exercise the chief command of the entire army of the Empire—nearly a million men—see to the direction of the two Imperial establishments, one at Vienna and another at Pesth, with their hundreds of dignitaries, officials and retainers of every grade; he must watch with careful eye the doings of the various members composing the numerous Hapsburg Family—doings which often require close attention—may, even superintend the management of their private fortunes and properties and, finally, takes the leading part in all ceremonies and State functions not of one Court but of two." The Emperor FRANCIS JOSEPH has always been regarded as one of the most accessible of monarchs and his own subjects manifest towards him a feeling of almost religious homage. In the course of his long reign the Emperor has seen ample evidence of the loyalty and affection of his subjects in the titles they have popularly accorded him—"The Good," "The Just," "The Chivalrous," "The Courageous," "The Noble," and it can assuredly be said of him that he is, in popular estimation, extending beyond the limits of his realm, the best and greatest Sovereign Austria has ever known. It has been aptly said of him that he is one of the chief elements in the system on which the peace of Europe depends, just as in the government of his own dominions it is his personal influence which alone is able to maintain some authority over the parties and races, the discord of which threatens a disruption of the Empire. All nations of the world therefore can devoutly add their felicitations to those of the Emperor's own subjects on this auspicious occasion, and join fervently in the hope that His Majesty may be spared for many years yet to witness the continued growth of those sentiments of loyalty and affection which make for the solidarity of the Empire and the permanence of peace.

HONGKONG APPEAL COURT.

(Daily Press, December 4th.)

We reproduce to-day the somewhat lengthy correspondence which has passed between His Honour the Chief Justice and His Excellency the Governor occasioned by some remarks in His Excellency's speech on the Budget, referring to the present constitution of the Appeal Court of the Colony. By two of the papers His Excellency was reported as having said that "the existing Appeal Court must necessarily be a farce." His Excellency explains that this does not fully represent what he said on the subject but in the opinion of the Chief Justice His Excellency's own version of his remarks makes very little difference in the general effect. The Chief Justice admits, as in fact every one must, that the constitution of the Appeal Court is "extraordinary in so wealthy a Colony as Hongkong"; and says it may also be conceded that it is anomalous, and that it deserves the strongest hostile criticism. "But that," says His Honour, "is a very different thing from saying that it is a farce; for this implies that the Chief Justice is obstinately conscious of his own opinions, and that he will never change them whatever new arguments may be advanced on the appeal." The insistence of the Chief Justice on the publication of this correspondence is, we think, to be regretted, for it will certainly have the unfortunate effect of reviving in the public mind that half-forgotten incident of a few months ago when the Chief Justice considered that the integrity of the Court had been attacked by one of the leading members of the local Bar. So far as His Excellency the Governor is concerned, no one, we can safely say, would dream of ascribing to him the malevolent intention of attributing to the Chief Justice any conduct not in consonance with the high and cherished traditions of the British Bench. When it is conceded that the constitution of the Appeal Court is extraordinary, anomalous and deserving of the strongest hostile criticism, and when it is further admitted by the Chief Justice that it has not happened up to the present that he has had occasion to reverse a judgment he has given, it seems to us that the position is more than merely anomalous, and notwithstanding all that His Honour the Chief Justice has to say on the subject, the public mind will not easily be divested of the idea that there is something ludicrous in an appeal from CESAR to CESAR. It does not necessarily follow that the honesty and good faith of the Judge whose decision is in question is thereby impugned. Though a Judge is always very properly assumed to have the honesty necessary to reverse his own decision if, on further argument, it is shown to be wrong, it is admitted by the Chief Justice that he has not had occasion to reverse a judgment he has given. We can, however, recall instances of His Honour's judgments being upheld merely by his own casting vote, and in one or two cases, at least, reversed when taken on appeal to the Privy Council. These facts go, rightly or wrongly, to create the very impression the Judge is so anxious to remove. The alteration in the constitution of the Appeal Court, announced in the recent speech of His Excellency the Governor, better meets the public notion of the fitness of things. However open-minded, however honest, a Judge may be, must it not be with a sense akin to hopelessness that a case is carried to the Appeal Court as at present constituted against a judgment delivered by the Chief Justice, since His Honour has not been

known to reverse on appeal a judgment he has given in the Court of Original Jurisdiction? The Chief Justice admits in the correspondence that he knows the idea was—and we may add still is—current in the Colony that "appeal is a farce" here, but the complaint is against the system, and is certainly not intended to reflect on those who administer it. The public are more or less familiar with the patient, laborious and conscientious work of the Judges in the Appeal Court; they know at least, that there is no hing of the farcical about that, and the public, we are sure, are perfectly satisfied as to the absolute sincerity of the learned judges concerned, but when once a judge has delivered a judgment which he has been at the utmost pains to prepare, it does strike the public as farcical to look to that same judge to quash his own judgment. In short the whole position is as Mr. Justice WISE tersely put it:—"As at present constituted the Appeal Court consists of the Chief Justice and the Puisse Judge, from one of whom the appeal necessarily lies, and the Chief Justice has a casting vote. The result is that anyone who has the money will appeal against the decision of the Puisse Judge (in consequence of the casting vote) but that no one will appeal against a decision of the Chief Justice unless he intends to carry the case to the Privy Council." Nine men out of ten would, we venture to think, regard that position of affairs not merely as anomalous but also as somewhat farcical.

A BUILDING COLLAPSE.

(Daily Press, December 4th.)

Inasmuch as we drew attention a fortnight ago to the necessity for some public statement being made of the reasons which governed the Attorney-General in not filing an indictment for manslaughter at the last Sessions in the Portland Street Building Collapse case, we welcome the statement made by the Attorney-General in the Legislative Council yesterday in reply to the question put to him by the Hon. Dr. Ho Kai. We can, however, scarcely consider the answer as in the highest degree satisfactory. It is too vague. Where, for instance, was this expert evidence obtained as to building construction? Did the Prosecution go beyond the Public Works Department for it? There are, we believe, at least half-a-dozen experts in building construction in the Public Works Department, and we are left to wonder why this important information to which the Attorney-General refers was not tendered at the Coroner's inquest, and so have saved the Jury from returning the verdict they did against the architect? If it should happen to be the case that this important expert evidence as to the construction of buildings was obtained from sources outside the Department, what are the public to think of the competence of the Government experts? These are a few of the questions which occur to us. However, we can congratulate Mr. BIRD on the Attorney-General's announcement that the evidence did not establish such a degree of negligence as could justify a prosecution for manslaughter, and that in his opinion no jury could possibly have convicted having regard to it.

Several meetings were held by the Chinese community at Rangoon in connection with the death of the Emperor of China. A telegram was sent to the Waiwupu protesting against the appointment of the infant Prince Pu Wei as Emperor. Some of the meetings were clearly Anti-Manchu, that is, against the present dynasty, the feeling being in favour of "China for the Chinese" and not for the Manchus.

SIDE LIGHTS ON CHINA'S TRADE.

(Daily Press, December 5th.)

Scattered here and there in the ninety and nine pages of Sir ALEXANDER HOSIE'S Report on the Trade of China for 1907, are many interesting observations which arrest the attention of the reader. We quote in full to-day the general summary which prefaces the British Commercial Attaché's report, confident that it will be read with interest and advantage by all actively concerned with commerce; but in this article our object will be to draw attention to what we may term a few side-lights on the trade possessing an interest for all readers. Take, in the first place, the reference to the woollen imports. It is safe to predict, from year to year, says the Report, that the value of woollen goods imported into China will be between four and five million Haikuan taels; "it has been so for the last thirty years, and there seems little hope, for the present at least of any great expansion." What is the explanation? Sir ALEXANDER HOSIE supplies more than one. In the first place, he says the ordinary Chinese cannot afford to have clothes for the winter and clothes for the summer; he prefers to have several thin cotton suits which he can wear, one over the other, discarding suit after suit as the weather gets warmer till in the middle of the summer little is left! But can this be attributed wholly to poverty? Does not "old custom," or—should we say?—the tyranny of fashion count for much in this connexion? One might imagine, Sir ALEXANDER proceeds to say, that good blankets, carpets and the like would appeal to the well-to-do classes, but—and here he strikes the right explanation—Occidental and Oriental ideas of comfort lie far apart. The Commercial Attaché regards as remote the possibility of a relaxation of the conservatism of to-day in these matters, for just as good roads, for instance, had to precede foreign carriages in Peking, and elsewhere, so must decent floors precede the use of carpets, and as regards clothing, the increasing contact with foreigners, and more especially with Japanese will tend to gradually modify Chinese ideas of dress. There is even now steady advance in the import of woollen and cotton mixtures, chiefly alpaca, lustre, and Orleans, and clothing including hats and trimmings goes on increasing. European umbrellas are also gaining in favour and among Chinese ladies there is a great demand for jewellery. The author of the Report, remarking that one has few opportunities of seeing the adornment of Chinese ladies, mentions meeting in a railway train a lady whose "thumb and four fingers of each hand were simply covered with gold rings encrusted with stones of every description, from diamond to turquoise." If this is an example of what wealth and position demand in China, Sir ALEXANDER HOSIE is surely right in saying that the jeweller need have no anxiety as to the disposal of his wares. Perfumers have not the same consolation unless they are more careful to study Chinese tastes, "as our sweetest perfumes do not appeal to the Chinese." Passing from clothes and personal adornment to other things affecting the comfort of the people, we may note the great business now done in kerosene oil, the import representing a value of about twenty million taels or three-and-a-quarter million pounds sterling per annum. Kerosene oil, the Report tells us, is an article which is very keenly pushed in China; the facilities afforded now by railways for forwarding it

in bulk into the interior are eagerly availed of by the oil companies. We have heard of schemes for buying up, exporting and putting to other uses all the native oils used for lighting in China, but Sir ALEXANDER HOSIE says these schemes are not so simple as they look, for the chief lighting oils in China are also used for cooking and could not easily be dispensed with. Most people are familiar with the fact that China imports great quantities of rice. Last year that import was valued at over five and a half million pounds sterling. Few, however, know that China is an importer of tea, but it is a fact that last year India, Ceylon and Java sent nearly nine million pounds, principally dust. It is used for mixing with China dust in the manufacture of brick and tablet tea for the Russian market. China's foreign drink bill seems to be increasing and though the import of aerated and mineral waters does not count for much, these waters the Report tells us are now manufactured in enormous quantities all over the Empire. "In summer they are dispensed in most tea houses in Peking, and street stalls are laden with bottles which contain waters of all colours, impurities and, as a sign of the times, they can be badiced. A half soda-water bottle of liquid costs from 40 to 50 cash, and it is dear at the price." This excerpt leads us to note other lines of trade in which the native manufacturer is seeking to oust the foreign product. Native candles for instance are now being turned out at several places in China and are "an exact imitation of the foreign article in every particular—colour, weight, general appearance and packing being identical." This is quite apart from the native candle industry of China, which is enormous in every province. Soaps too are now being produced in native establishments, but "the finest soaps will always hold their own until a good foreign factory is established in this Country which contains in abundance most of the materials required in their manufacture." The drop of nearly 10,000 tons in the import of rails simply means that rails are being turned out and supplied at the Hanyang Iron foundry at Hankow. As everybody knows, the number of Cotton Mills is yearly increasing. Developments of this kind are to be expected. Sir ALEXANDER HOSIE towards the end of his report mentions that he has frequently alluded to the desire of the Chinese to buy machinery and set up mills of various kinds. "The will to manufacture is there, but the lack of technical knowledge not unfrequently leads to failure. The day may come when China will possess medical and technical colleges, and it is a pleasure to note that some of the highest officials recognise their necessity."

RANDOM REFLECTIONS.

Has it ever occurred to any of my readers to enquire into the meaning of the word dollar? We use it every day, I mean the word—not every one of us is so fortunate as to handle the dollar itself—but few of us when introduced to the local currency ventured to take any thought as to its origin. The subject was brought to my notice in the Peak tramway the other day. Among the passengers was a party of Americans which included one dear old lady who seemed to be much perturbed because this was an English colony and its money consisted of dollars and cents. "Why," she said addressing the company, "the dollar is an American institution," and she looked as if she were aggrieved that anybody else should use a word which she evidently regarded as exclusively American.

Though nobody dared to enlighten the old lady or apologise for British aggressiveness in

using a term which she thought belonged to the States, it struck me that very few knew anything about the origin of the word. We know that previous to 1785 the English pound was in use in the United States, but on July 6th of that year the Continental Congress established the dollar, although the exact weight was not fixed until almost a year later, when it was made to approximate to the weight of the old Spanish dollar. Many people are under the impression that the dollar originated with the Spanish, but such is not the case. It was first coined at Joachimsthal, a mining town in Bohemia, and hence called "Joachim's thaler," or simply thaler or dollar. I am not quite sure but I suppose we may regard the Mexican dollar as a descendant of the old Spanish dollar, and, that being so, our offence in basing our currency on the Mexican dollar may not be so heinous after all.

But talking of dollars emphasises the lack of them. It sounds a little Irish, I'll admit Maskee. What I mean is that the fall in exchange makes our dollars less valuable and with some people more scarce. Yet because those affected are not civil servants there is no outcry such as we heard not so long ago. Now the civil servants smile more broadly than before, but the poor beggars who find their salaries have not the same purchasing power that they once had and those who have to remit regularly home do not share in the jubilation. Not being in the Government employ they have simply to lie low and wait for better days. But when is this downward tendency to stop? It has been continuous throughout the year and as 1908 draws to a close it seems more pronounced. For instance on Saturday there was a drop of a farthing from the previous day, which is quite a big fall, and bodes ill for the immediate future.

The Chinese equivalent of the old cry "get your hair cut" might be applicable in China at present, but it is certainly not expedient. In these days of mourning for the Imperial dead the Celestials must not have their heads shaven and though dirty crowns look bad and possibly feel worse, they must be tolerated until the period of 100 days has elapsed. One man got into trouble at Canton over visiting a barber who was induced to operate upon him. The latter risked death but he was let off with a whipping. Verily, barbers must have good reasons for mourning at present.

This note is not altogether Chinese, though the "child like and bland" nature of the explanation might suggest that it was. According to the Chinese *Public Opinion*, the Chief of Police at Amoy has asked the Japanese Consul concerning the matter of fishing with bombs in the rivers in Fokien Province. The Consul replied that the parties in question were not fishing but were only in play.

Down Singapore way the time honoured discussion "Scotsmen or Scotchmen?" has arisen. One writer, evidently a Sassenach, seeks to justify the use of Scotchmen, because, forsooth, he finds the word in an *English* dictionary. This is adding insult to injury. And when he describes himself an "Anglesman" so as to presumably follow the fashion of those who call themselves "Scotsman" he only brings ridicule upon himself. Though I have little sympathy with the ultra-patriotism of those Scots who look upon the rest of the world as in heathen darkness because it is not under the patronage of Mac Somebody or other, I think a fairly good case can be made out for preferring Scotsmen to Scotchmen.

Admittedly we have been accustomed to the use of the word Scotchmen, and when we have said that we have admitted perhaps the strongest argument in its favour. I have read several histories of Scotland and sampled a few of the old writers but I can't remember one who described the men of Scotland as Scotchmen. They are alluded to as Scots, or Scottis, from which doubtless comes the adjective Scottish, but not until comparatively recent years do we find the appellation of Scotchmen employed. The famous body founded in France in 1418 was not the Scotch Guards; even our own regiment was the Scots Guards, and it seems to me, if on no other ground than that of euphony, "Scotsmen" have made out a good case for the use of that term in preference to the other. I notice the Hongkong St. Andrew's Society

calls its members "Scotsmen," and who in the East dare question that authority?

I am sure, Mr. Editor, you will pardon my Scottish outburst this week, when I remind you that I am preparing myself for the carnival of St. Andrew on Monday night. I am dieting myself on porridge and haggis, experimenting with samshu so as to get a good lining for the whisky receptacle, and practising a few guttural sounds so that I may be able to overcome the misfortune of my life in not having been born in Scotland. [N.B.—Shows how careful a man should be in the choice of his parents.] [Another N.B.—This is a joke.] I can reel when sober and yell "hooch" on the slightest encouragement. I possess Scottish (not Scotch) ancestors who were hanged for sheep stealing and my middle name begins with Mac.

Women are making great sensations at home. The suffragettes are continuing their noisy campaign with the clamour of "votes for women," and the prisons occasionally shelter a few of the more aggressive, but it is left to the town of High Wycombe to establish the precedent of electing a lady for mayor. There can be no doubt that a few of the aldermen did not view with pleasure the prospect of being ruled by a woman, even though she rejoices in the name of Dove. Perhaps most of them were married and looked on the council chamber as a safety valve which enabled them to express themselves more freely than they dared in the presence of their spouses! None of them described the situation so well as Alderman Gomm who rushed into verse as follows:—

Our beautiful Dove has fallen in love
With thirty-one men round a table;
She wants a seat in the Mayoral chair,
But I doubt whether she is able.

The prospect of ruling thirty-one men is tempting for any woman, but—There is much significance in a "but."

What a plethora of entertainments we are going to have next month! The Amateur Dramatic Society open on Wednesday and hold the boards for six nights, then the Bandmann Comedy Company come to delight us for a time. When we have got over the New Year festivities the Kowloon Amateurs will call for our patronage when they present "The Silver King" on the 9th and 11th January. Following this we are to have the Herbert Withers Concert Co. with us for a short season. With a few dances sandwiched between these entertainments, the winter in Hongkong should not be one of discontent.

Permit me to clear up a misunderstanding, Mr. Editor. When the newspapers announced that Mr. Wood, the Police Magistrate, had decided that canteens must be licensed they jumped to a conclusion which was not warranted by the facts. The decision was that no civilian could conduct a canteen for his own profit without a licence. The ordinary military canteens are not affected by the decision, and Tommy Atkins' little attempt at co-operative dealing will not be handicapped by a tribute to the Government.

RODERICK RANDOM.

ALLEGED ACCEPTANCE OF A BRIBE.

Before Mr. J. H. Kemp at the Magistracy on Nov. 30 an Indian constable, stationed at the Water Police Station at Tsimshatsui, was indicted on a charge of accepting a bribe of a bottle of whisky. According to the evidence, a hawker who keeps a stall in Macdonald Road, was approached by the defendant to "cumsha" him a bottle of whisky a week. In consideration of this present the constable is alleged to have promised not to remove the hawker from his place of business. The complainant told the Indian that he could not afford to give him a bottle of whisky weekly, but would cumsha him once a fortnight. To this the constable agreed, and it was arranged that he should call for his first present on the following day. Meantime the hawker reported the matter to the police, and a detective awaited the arrival of the Indian. As he did not put in an appearance that day, he was waited for on the next, and when he appeared and accepted the whisky he was arrested. The case was remanded to enable the defendant to call witnesses.

HONGKONG.

The s.s. *Lightning*, which arrived from India on Dec. 3rd, brought about 100 details for the Rajputs, and 129 deportees from Singapore.

The name of Miss Daisy A. M. Gale has been added to the register of medical and surgical practitioners qualified to practice in this Colony.

Mr. R. O. Hutchison has been appointed to act as Head of the Sanitary Department, and Mr. A. E. Wood to act as Assistant Registrar General and Deputy Registrar of Marriages.

The third of the series of Organ Recitals arranged for the first Tuesday of the winter months was given last week by Mr. Denman Fuller at St. John's Cathedral.

A proposal to give a dance under the auspices of the Volunteer Corps is to be considered at a meeting of those interested, convened for Tuesday next, the 8th inst.

Dr. Atkinson, Principal Civil Medical Officer, returned to the Colony on Nov. 27 from North China, where he has been to give expert advice in regard to the outbreak of plague at Tongshan Mines.

Lance-Corporal Smith, of the Buffs, committed suicide on Friday night at the Barracks by cutting his throat. No reason is assigned for the rash act. The body was removed to the Military Hospital.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. A. Bedford, C.M.G., R.A.M.C., Principal Medical Officer, South China Command, to be a Member of the Sanitary Board, vice Lieutenant-Colonel J. M. Reid, R.A.M.C., resigned, with effect from the 19th instant.

The following additional regulation has been added to the quarantine regulations: "The place known as the Government Observation Station at Laichikok shall be set apart as a place for the detention and seclusion of persons whether actually suffering from disease or not, arriving on board vessels subjected to quarantine."

Another instance of Oriental ingenuity came before the Magistrate on Nov. 27 when a coolie was charged with stealing sugar from a steamer. He had made two canvas bags so as to fit into the sleeves of his jacket, but apparently the invention was not quite successful. At any rate his appearance aroused the suspicion of a policeman who examined him and found his suspicions justified.

Mr. F. B. Deacon (of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon) who appeared for the prosecution in the case in which Choy Ling Skek, late cashier of the I On Insurance Co., was charged with the embezzlement of \$40,000, informed Mr. J. E. Wood at the Magistracy yesterday that his clients did not wish to proceed with the case. The charge was accordingly withdrawn. Defendant was represented by Mr. P. W. Goldring (of Messrs. Goldring, Barlow and Morrell).

The annual general meeting of the Kowloon Dock Staff was held in the Reading Room on the 24th ult. when the following members were elected to office for the ensuing year:—Wm. Stewart, Chairman; J. C. Gow, Secretary; R. Lapsley, Treasurer; R. J. Brown, Librarian; W. J. Crawford, W. Davison, J. Hand J. Ramsay, J. Tully, Committee. It was also agreed to carry on the Bi-Weekly Dances and to hold the usual annual ball on Hogmanay Eve.

On Dec. 1st was the birthday anniversary of H. M. Queen Alexandra and a royal salute was fired at noon. The Fleet and other vessels in port dressed ship in honour of the occasion. An official dinner was held in the evening at Government House. The following is a list of invited guests:—H.E. Admiral the Hon. Sir Hedworth Lambton, K.C.V.O., Flag Captain Clinton Baker, R.N., Flag Comdr. Norris, R.N., Flag Lieut. Mullenoux, R.N., Mr. Motton, R.N., Comdr. Fuller, R.N., Mr. and Mrs. Slade, Mr. and Mrs. Baretto, Mr. Bernedo, Mr. Eitzen, Mr. Moreno, Mr. and Mrs. Tiedemann, Lt. Comdr. Dickens, R.N., Lt. Comdr. Gresson, R.N., Major Close, R.E., Captain and Mrs. Dooner, Lt. Col. and Mrs. Bayard, Capt. Dwyer, R.A., Major Probyn, R.A.M.C., Lt. Col. Stacpole, A.P.D., Capt. and Mrs. Waller, Dr. Aubrey, Mr. and Mrs. Bailey, Mr. Elwes, Mr. P. Goldring, Miss Innes, Mr. and Mrs. Logan, and Sir F. Lovell.

Captain T. C. Leah, R.G.A., has been appointed to Hongkong.

The s.s. *Chipsing* from Tientsin on Dec. 3rd landed 100 mules for the use of the Military Authorities.

At the Magistracy on Dec. 4th Mr. J. R. Wood discharged the Russian merchant, Bouslans Malsiowsky, who was charged with being in unlawful possession of five cases of cigarettes valued \$1,080.

Lady Piggott, wife of the Chief Justice, returned to the Colony on Dec. 3 by the *Kamo-Maru* after a long absence at Home. The Hon. Captain Basil R. H. Taylor and Mrs. Taylor were passengers by the same steamer. Other passengers included Mr. A. Forbes, Mr. G. A. Woodcock, secretary of the Sanitary Board, and Mr. A. G. Gordon; Mrs. Gordon is remaining at home for another twelve months.

Before Mr. J. H. Kemp at the Magistracy on Dec. 3rd the Chinese wife of Bola Sing, a Kowloon City herdsman, was charged with administering poison to her husband, and the case was remanded. The herdsman was in such a critical condition that it was considered necessary to take his dying depositions, and just after the case was adjourned news was received of his death. The Chinese woman will therefore probably be indicted on a charge of murder.

At two o'clock Thursday morning fire broke out at No. 7 Lai On Lane, West Point. The ground floor of this building is a preserved ginger shop and the first and second floors coolie residences. The outbreak originated on the first floor, and spread rapidly to the ground and third floors, the whole building being in flames before the fire brigade, who were promptly on the scene, arrived. The first and second floors of the building were gutted, but the stock of the shop on the ground floor was more damaged by water than by fire. The goods were insured to the extent of \$21,000.

Notwithstanding the many exposures of the famous Chinese bank note trick, there are still a number of gullible people in Hongkong who fall victims to the wiles of the "confidence man". On the 2nd inst. a widow was accosted by two men in Staunton Street, who asked her to be kind enough to take a roll of notes to a money changer for her. She agreed, leaving with the men jewellery to the value of \$31 as security. On opening the parcel supposed to contain bank notes at the money changer's she found nothing therein but paper, and on returning to recover her jewellery, found that the confidence men had departed.

A very successful smoking concert, the first of the season, was held on the 28th ult. at St. George's Club and proved very successful. The attendance was large and the entertainment was of more than ordinary merit, so that the promoters may feel gratified with the result of their efforts. Mr. G. A. Diss made an excellent chairman. The programme was sustained by Messrs. E. B. Ayris, tenor; F. A. Mackintosh and A. C. Diss, baritone; F. T. Chapple, bass; W. Pelling, A. Hannibal, R. L. Bridger, E. G. Jordan and Captain Parke, humorists; Lieut. R. M. Crosse and Mr. W. Williams, who gave musical sketches; and Messrs. D. Harvey and W. Anderson who contributed a duet, the former playing on the one-stringed violin and the latter on the oboe. Mr. Atkins played the accompaniments.

The slumbers of the inhabitants of the peaceful little village of Chinwan, near Seaton, were rudely disturbed on the 28th ult. by a discharge of firearms. This was a "bravado" volley fired by a band of armed robbers on their departure from the village after having looted two homesteads. Towards midnight houses Nos. 20 and 30 were simultaneously entered, the former by fourteen men and the latter by nine, all of whom were armed with revolvers and choppers. The inmates of both houses were covered with revolvers, and warned not to create a disturbance or they would be shot. At house No. 20 boxes were broken open and \$92 in money stolen, while at No. 30 the robbers secured \$60 in cash, and gauze, silk and family clothing to the value of \$150. Then they warned the terrified inmates not to move out of their homes that night, under penalty of death, and firing three shots in the air, hurriedly decamped. The police are investigating.

It is notified that the sale of ferns and other plants to the public from the Botanic Gardens will be discontinued after the end of this year.

Saturday saw the inauguration of play under the auspices of the newly-established football league. Three fixtures were set down, two at the Happy Valley and one at Causeway Bay, and it was evident that sport has received a tremendous flip. It is sometime since such scenes of animation were witnessed at the Valley and, as usual, the games in which the tars were concerned were attended with most excitement. The new league has made a satisfactory start and it should not be long ere some public-spirited citizen comes forward with a trophy to be held by the leading team.

Twenty-three more subscription griffins arrived from Shanghai by the s.s. *Hang Sang* on Dec. 2nd, and were drawn for in the afternoon at Kennedy's Stables, Causeway Bay. The drawing resulted as follows:—Lot No. 25—White—Capt. Barker (Buffs); No. 26—White—General Broadwood; No. 27—Bay—Admiral Lambton; No. 28—Bay—A. Moir; No. 29—Chestnut—Capt. Houlton (Buffs); No. 30—Chestnut—C. E. Anton; No. 31—White—Lieut. Leeson; No. 32—Bay—J. R. M. Smith; No. 33—Dark Grey—A. C. Hynes; No. 34—Black—Major Finlay; No. 35—Gray—Hind and Hynes; No. 36—Roan—Macdonald and Howarth; No. 37—Iron Grey—P. W. Goldring; No. 38—Grey—Lieut. Stodd; No. 39—White—G. Friesland; No. 40—Bay—H. P. White; No. 41—Chestnut—W. J. Gresson; No. 42—Grey—F. B. Deacon; No. 43—White—J. H. Lewis; No. 44—Iron Grey—Wylong Mess; No. 45—Grey—H. N. Mody; No. 46—Bay—J. Wheeley; No. 47—Grey—H. Humphreys.

THE GOVERNMENT AND THE
BOYCOTT.

AN UNEASY FEELING IN COMMERCIAL CIRCLES.

Considerable apprehension has existed in the Colony during the past few days following upon certain drastic measures taken by the Government in connection with the suppression of the boycott of Japanese goods. Many persons, including prominent merchants and newspaper editors, have been deported. We are given to understand that this has aroused a good deal of public resentment and we were informed on Thursday night that the Metal Guild and the Piece Goods Guild had suspended business in the Colony by way of protesting against the Government's action in deporting men without trial.

Long telegrams, we understand, were sent to London on the subject yesterday with a view to the position being represented to the Imperial Government, the cost of these telegrams being defrayed by subscription among the Chinese.

In foreign as well as in Chinese business circles a very uneasy feeling prevails. Some of the men who have been deported have considerable financial obligations in the Colony, and the proximity of China New Year makes a disturbance of trade at the present time specially unfortunate. Representations have, we believe, been made to the Government on the subject.

The action of Mr. Ng Hin Tsz, the editor of the *Sheung Po*, in refusing to leave the Colony when served with a notice to do so and who decided to test the validity of the proceedings, roused no little interest. On Thursday however he was liberated and the *habeas corpus* proceedings will be abandoned.

FOREIGN INSURANCE BUSINESS
OUTSIDE TREATY LIMITS.

The Local Authorities (our Canton correspondent writes) have received news from Peking that a censor has memorialized the Throne praying the Wai-wu-pu to discuss the subject of restricting all foreign fire and marine Insurance Companies to Foreign Concessions and Treaty Ports only, prohibiting them to accept risks beyond the Treaty ports, so as to avoid international disputes. The memorial also begs the Throne to prohibit all Foreign Life Insurance Companies interfering with litigation concerning Chinese subjects who are holders of life insurance policies in foreign companies.

THE HONGKONG AMATEUR DRAMATIC CLUB.

SUCCESSFUL PRODUCTION OF "A COUNTRY GIRL."

On Dec. 2 the Hongkong Amateur Dramatic Club opened a series of six performances of "A Country Girl" in the Theatre Royal under the most successful auspices. Practically, no other result could have been anticipated, as the A.D.C. have acquired the reputation of doing well whatever they take in hand, but seldom have they achieved such a complete triumph as they have done on the present occasion. We have had reason to congratulate the Club on past performances and it is pleasant to be in a position to again compliment our premier amateur combination on a production which is fully up to expectations. The community will enjoy it, and no other criterion need be considered, because, after all, the important standard of judgment is whether the public appreciate it or not. And there can be no two opinions about the present production.

Of course it will be readily admitted that a performance by amateurs possesses an attraction which professionals, however popular individuals they may be, cannot hope to enjoy. That is the personal attraction, the interest that is born of personal acquaintance and friendship, and while it produces a feeling of sympathy it is also responsible in some degree for a more acute, but not necessarily unfriendly, criticism. Undoubtedly it is this bond, this knowledge, which makes in the eyes of patrons an indifferent performance tolerable and a successful production the acme of perfection. It is no doubt foolish to employ such extravagant language in describing the work of amateurs, who, however clever they may be, are themselves conscious of their limitations; but it may be aptly said of the present production that it would be no discredit to professionals.

Doubtless it is due to its excellent reputation, but it is very apparent that the Club experiences little difficulty in filling up the vacancies which must occur in its personnel in a changing community like ours. It seems to draw the best talent in the Colony, and the present cast includes a number of new performers whom the community will delight to honour. The return of Mr. H. P. White to the stage is a matter for congratulation, but the most conspicuous acquisition is that of Mrs. H. A. Stewart, and there are others who have shown themselves very useful in the minor parts.

"A Country Girl" is a fairly ambitious undertaking, but the many difficulties which it presented vanished under the guidance of Mr. John Robertson, who was responsible for the artistic scenery and the admirable effects. A bright sparkling comedy, "A Country Girl" gave opportunities for fun which were utilised to the full. The scene where Geoffrey Challoner is surprised by his sweetheart kissing the fascinating Nan was very cleverly portrayed, and Barry, the irrepressible, supplied a good deal of amusement. To hear him refer to Michael Angelo as Mike was very mirth-provoking, but when he inquired if he had a cousin in Kowloon he simply brought down the house. Speaking generally, the performance was characterised with a swing and a dash that indicated how thorough was the knowledge each individual possessed of his or her part and showed the excellent understanding which obtained between the various combinations—cast, chorus and orchestra. The principals filled their roles most effectively, the minor characters supported them admirably, and the chorus sang with a verve and swing that contributed greatly to the success of the production. From the curtain's rise till its fall after midnight the piece went without a hitch, and though there was an occasional hesitation, scarcely perceptible, the performance could hardly be bettered. Some of those who took vocal parts would have been more effective had their voices been more powerful and telling, but that, of course, was not the fault of the artists. Everybody was at home in front of the footlights. Not one seemed to suffer from that weakness common to amateurs, "Stage fright," and the ease and nonchalance of the principals gave to the whole a smoothness that was perhaps its most distinguishing feature.

The cast is as under:

Geoffrey Challoner	Mr. Geo. P. Lammert.
Rajah of Bhong	Mr. H. P. White.
Sir Joseph Verity	Lt. Com. Dickens, R.N.
Douglas Verity	Mr. H. Hancock.
Lord Anchester	Mr. H. V. Wilkinson.
Maj. Vicat	Mr. D. P. Warbrook.
Lord Grassmere	Mr. F. C. Carrol.
Sir Charles Cortelyou	Mr. E. G. May.
Granfer Mummery	Mr. M. S. Northcote.
Rube Fairway	Mr. A. J. Darby.
Groom	Mr. J. Hall.
Tynchiff	Sub-Lt. D. Maxwell, R.N.
Rajah's Attendants	Mr. F. C. Hall.
Barry	Mr. C. C. F. Cunningham.
Marjorie Joy	Mrs. W. G. Worcester.
Princess Methlana of Bhong	Mrs. W. Logan.
Madame Sophie	Miss Ella Rowe.
Mrs. St. Quintin	Mrs. Henry Humphreys.
Lady Anchester	Mrs. W. L. Carter.
Miss Ecroyd	Mrs. Evan Jones.
Lady Arnott	Miss D. Shelton Hooper.
Nurse	Miss Warren.
Princess	Miss Chapman.
Attendants	Miss Chatham.

Nan Mrs. H. A. Stewart.
Villagers, Rustic, Farm Hands, &c., &c.—
Mesdames Gilby, McFarlane, Capel, Tarrant,
Misses Seth, Andrew, Tennant, Lambert,
Hume, Sayer, Schmidt, Miller, Moore,
Flammie, Coughtrie, Lammert, Wilson, St.
Chair, Young, Nugent, Turner, Walker, Ayris,
Graff, Sayer, Thomas, Hayward, H. W. Sayer.
The principal dancers were Miss Ella Rowe,
Mrs. Henry Humphreys, Miss Hooper, Mrs.
Gilby, and Miss Seth, while Mrs. McFarlane
sang "Come to Devonshire" with a most
delightful vigour and charm.

The musical director was Mr. George Grimble, the orchestra being composed as follows:
First Violins, Capt. H. M. Beasley, R.A., Mr.
J. R. Hargreaves, Mr. E. Wolf, Mr. C. A. P.
Xavier, Cello.—Mr. P. A. Rozario, Bass.—Mr.
W. W. Matthews. Cornets.—Mr. C. C. Elliott
and Mr. Bristow. Clarinet.—Bandsman Hotchkiss.
The "Buffs." Trombone.—Bandsman
McQuade. The "Buffs." Second Violins, Mr.
G. G. Catchick, Mr. J. M. S. Rozario, Mr.
Sibbitt, Sert Perdue, A. P. D. Viola.—Bandsman
Tester. The "Buffs." Flute.—Mr. J. D.
Osmund. French Horns.—Corporal Miller,
and Corporal Miles. The "Buffs." Bas-
soon.—Lance Corporal Smith. The "Buffs."
Timpani.—Bandsman Kennings. The "Buffs."
Piano.—Mr. George Grimble.

Without being invidious, reference may be made to the performances of several of the principals. "Nan" is the first name that suggests itself, the vivacious Devonshire girl endowed with plenty of feminine charms and thrilling with the sheer joy of life. Mrs. H. A. Stewart proved a comely and fascinating Nan and laughed and sang and joked to the manner born. Her interpretation left nothing to be desired; in fact it was very much admired and no more popular figure moved on the stage. Her singing of "Iry again Johnny" was received with great applause. The more dignified role of Marjorie Joy was entrusted to Mrs. W. Logan, a lady who enjoys the distinction of being one of the premier amateur actresses of Hongkong, a distinction gained by several clever studies. She was well suited and her impersonation was in the highest degree artistic. Her solos were exquisitely rendered, one of the most attractive being "Over the hills and far away" and the duets in which she appeared with Geoffrey Challoner were most delightful efforts, notably the boy and girl duets. The ambitious Madame Sophie, the dressmaker who aspired to society, was cleverly represented by Miss Ella Rowe, who assumed all sorts of airs in a distinctly feminine manner. Her dainty dancing was also much admired and she came in for a fair share of the approbation of the audience. Mrs. H. Humphreys essayed the part of Mrs. St. Quintin, the aristocratic lady with electioneering ideas, with a distinct success, while Miss P. Seth was very effective in her characterisation of the Princess Methlana of Bhong. Miss Warren took the part of nurse very creditably, and Miss Hooper filled the pleasing part of Lady Arnott. Mr. G. P. Lammert made an excellent Geoffrey Challoner. He looked the dashing naval officer and interpreted his part with an artistic taste that appealed strongly to the audience. There was

a pleasing sense of restraint manifested in all his movements. Not the least meritorious part of his performance was his singing, and alike in solos and duets he was heard to great advantage. Mr. H. P. White's commanding figure and easy dignified mien recommended him for the role of the Rajah of Bhong in which position he was humorous and dignified as required. His allusions to the Sanitary Board cats made his songs more appreciated, the ease with which Hongkong rhymed with Bhong being doubtless responsible for the many references to the Colony. As the irrepressible Barry, full of fun and frolic, Mr. W. G. Worcester scored a great success. Everything he said and did was humorous from selling a worthless tin mine for two thousand pounds to his political speech in support of his master's candidature, when he declared that "politics was the ruin of Parliament," or his discourse on painters or dressing as a woman and fooling the men into proposing to him. He certainly is entitled to every credit for his good work. Though Mr. Mowbray Northcote had perhaps less to do than usual on the stage he acted Granfer Mummery with his accustomed success, while Lieut. Commander Dickens acquitted himself admirably as the obsequious Sir Joseph Verity. Mr. H. Hancock as Douglas Verity, the young man who was not very keen on becoming a member of Parliament, and Mr. Wilkinson as Lord Anchester gave creditable performances.

To sum up, the entire production was in the highest degree praiseworthy. The orchestration enhanced the value of the performances and the mounting proved very effective. The tableaux in the opening of the second act roused the enthusiasm of the audience, the effects being very picturesque. The costumes were beautiful. The furnishing was entrusted to Messrs. W. Powell and Company, and the business side of the production was looked after by Mr. A. Chapman, as business manager, assisted by Mr. M. Northcote as hon. secretary and Mr. E. Ormiston as hon. treasurer.

The large audience which witnessed the opening performance last night was very appreciative and, had time permitted, a few encores would have been given, but, as it was, the promise of three hours' merriment was more than fulfilled.

The Hongkong Amateur Dramatic Club has every reason to be gratified at the success attending their production of "A Country Girl." On Saturday night the City Hall was filled to excess, not even standing room being available in the lower portions of the house, a sure testimony of the appreciation accorded our local amateurs by their somewhat critical Hongkong friends. "A Country Girl" is considered a formidable undertaking even for a professional Company, and it is no exaggeration to say that the A.D.C. performance is quite up to, if not in advance of, the standard we are accustomed to expect from the professional troupes visiting the Colony. The occasion was rendered the more enjoyable owing to the visit of the Interport cricket team from Canton, and many were the topical allusions introduced at the expense of our friends from the Shameen, who, judging from appearances, thoroughly appreciated the fun. Most of the performers have been accorded their full mead of praise in previous issues of the *Daily Press*, but Saturday night's performance was so good as to be worthy of special mention.

Encores were numerous, in fact much too numerous, and the lady performers began to exhibit unmistakable signs of fatigue consequent upon the repeated responses they had to make to the appeals of some of the less considerate among the audience. Nevertheless it was a most creditable performance, and so long as the Colony can produce such a plethora of talented Thespians we need have no fear that the Hongkong A.D.C. will not continue to flourish and hold its reputation as second to none in the Far East.

Dr. Sun Yat Sen, who appears to be still at Singapore, and not in Japan, as recently reported in Japanese journals, denies being associated with the revolutionary movement in Kwangai province as recently alleged by the Governor of the province in a memorial to the throne.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held on Dec. 3rd in the Council Chamber.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, SIR FREDERICK JOHN DEALTRY LUGARD, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O.

Hon. Mr. F. H. MAY, C.M.G., (Colonial Secretary).

Hon. Mr. W. REES DAVIES, K.C., (Attorney-General).

Hon. Mr. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. Mr. W. CHATHAM, C.M.G., (Director of Public Works).

Hon. Mr. E. A. IRVING (Registrar-General).

Hon. Mr. F. J. BADELEY, (Capt. Superintendent of Police).

Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, M.B., C.M., C.M.G.

Hon. Mr. WEI YUK, C.M.G.

Hon. Mr. H. E. POLLOCK, K.C.

Hon. Mr. E. A. HEWETT.

Hon. Mr. H. A. W. SLADE.

Hon. Mr. W. J. GRESSON.

Mr. C. CLEMENTI (Clerk of Councils).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the last meeting were read, and confirmed.

CHINA'S NATIONAL BEREAVEMENT.

HIS EXCELLENCY—I have caused to be inserted upon the notices of this meeting of Council a resolution which I now rise to move. We in Hongkong are so closely connected with China that events in that Empire affect us in an exceptional degree, and it has always been our aim and object to maintain cordial and friendly relations with our great neighbour. The majority of the population of this British Colony are Chinese, and whether they are British subjects or merely temporary residents, they cannot but feel deeply the news we have lately heard from Peking. It is therefore fitting that this Council, as representing the people of this Colony, should express its condolences with the Chinese Government, and assure it of its sympathy and good wishes. So soon as I received the news of the death of the Dowager Empress and of the Emperor, I telegraphed in this sense through the Consul-General at Canton to the Governor-General of the Two Kwang, and he has expressed himself as very grateful for the message, but I have awaited the meeting of Council before sending any similar message to Peking. If, as I am sure it will be, this resolution is unanimously carried, I propose to send a copy of it to our Minister at Peking for communication to the Chinese Government. I move:—
"That the Legislative Council of Hongkong at this, its first meeting since the news of the deaths of the Emperor and the Dowager Empress of China was received, desires to record its sympathy with the Government of China on the loss it has sustained by the death of its rulers, and to express its hope that the reign of the new Emperor may be successful and prosperous."

HON. DR. HO KAI—Sir, Most respectfully and feelingly do I second the resolution which your Excellency has just proposed, and which I am quite sure this Council will pass unanimously. The recent sad calamity which has overtaken the Chinese Government and nation is of such a character as cannot fail to call forth our deepest sympathy with them in their sorrow and grief. And further, when we see with what fortitude and calm resignation they have borne their double loss, we cannot but entertain for them the profoundest respect and admiration. Yesterday the new Emperor formally ascended the Throne, and I am sure we all wish him a long and glorious reign. In the meantime we wish and we hope that his trusted ministers and the Prince Regent will have every success in securing and maintaining the welfare, prosperity and happiness of the great Chinese nation, and also in promoting the peace and advancement of the Empire—(Applause).

PREPARATIONS FOR TYPHOONS.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Before proceeding with the business of the day I desire, with the permission of the Council, to make a statement for the information of the public. Last year when introducing the estimates I pledged myself to

give especial attention to the question of the efficiency of our typhoon signals and this year, on a similar occasion, I informed the Council what I had been able to do. On August 6th also I stated that the Commander-in-Chief of the South China Station had consented to communicate by wireless telegraphy any atmospheric disturbances which His Majesty's warships cruising in surrounding waters might be able to report. The great desideratum, however, was that there should be an observation station somewhere to the south east, the direction from which most typhoons come. I accordingly wrote to the Governor-General of the Philippine Islands—the islands in that channel being American territory—suggesting to him that information from that quarter would be of great value both to Manila and ourselves. I desire to read to you the very courteous reply which I have received from him:—

Manila.

November 17th, 1908.

YOUR EXCELLENCY—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of October 16th, and in reply I must say that I am much impressed with what your Excellency urges in favour of the establishment of a wireless station at Santo Domingo de Basco. I have taken up the matter with the Postal Authorities who are charged with the duty of making all insular telegraphic installations, and hope that they may have sufficient money available to carry into effect the project suggested by your Excellency. If there is no money available for the purpose, I shall apply for an appropriation to the Legislature at its next session.

With assurances of my most distinguished consideration,—I have the honour to be, Sir, Your Excellency's very obedient servant.

(Sd) JAMES F. SMITH,
Governor-General.

The establishment of a wireless station at Santo Domingo is, I am assured by our own director—and we have seen by a communication published by the American Consul-General that it is also the view of the Rev. Father Algué, the director of the Manila Observatory—will be of incalculable value to us. Therefore I am most glad to be able to inform the Council that there is every prospect of it being established. I will also mention one other matter. I have arranged with the Telegraph Company, at a very small cost, that during the prevalence of any typhoons likely to strike this island, more frequent telegrams should be exchanged—(Applause).

FINANCIAL MINUTES.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY, by command of His Excellency the Governor, laid on the table Financial Minutes Nos 61 to 68, and moved that they be referred to the Finance Committee.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded and the motion was agreed to.

FINANCIAL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY, by command of His Excellency the Governor, laid on the table the report of the Finance Committee (No. 18), and moved its adoption.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

A NEW LATRINE.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—I move the resolution under section 170 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance 1903 which stands in my name and copies of which have been circulated. In connection with this matter I beg to lay on the table a paper containing objections to the site on which it is proposed to erect a public latrine at Wongneicheong. I had occasion recently to move a similar resolution and to comment briefly on a similar objection. I said then it was impossible to select a site for a latrine anywhere within the radius of the inhabited area of this city without incurring the objection of some portion of the inhabitants. The site which forms the subject of this resolution has been selected by the Sanitary Board after careful consideration and approved by the Public Works Authorities. There is no more objection to it than there would be to any site that could be selected with reasonable regard to financial consideration in the neighbourhood of this village. Therefore I do not think any of the objections which have been raised to the site should weigh with this Council.

The DIRECTOR of PUBLIC WORKS seconded and the resolution was agreed to.

The resolution was as follows:—Whereas application has been duly made by the Sanitary Board to the Governor under Section 167 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance 1903 for the erection of a Public Latrine in the Wong Nei Chung village immediately to the South of it and near House No. 113; And Whereas such application having been approved by the Governor and a notification of the intention to erect a public latrine upon such site having been duly published in three successive numbers of the Gazette, certain inhabitants of the above village have objected to such erection; And Whereas the objections so made have been considered by this Council; It is hereby resolved by this Council that the above mentioned site and the erection thereon of a Public Latrine be approved.

NEW BYELAWS.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—I move that the approval of this Council be given to a series of byelaws under section 16 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance 1903, with the exception of A., D. and H. which require to be sent back to the Sanitary Board for amendment. The other byelaws contain small alterations to the existing byelaws, and provide in the case of those relating to disinfection and the prevention and mitigation of infectious disease, for the new policy which is now being adopted in dealing with Plague.

The DIRECTOR of PUBLIC WORKS seconded and the resolution was agreed to.

The bye-laws were:—

- (a.) Bake-houses.
- (b.) Cattle-sheds, Pig-sties, etc.
- (c.) Cemeteries.
- (d.) Dairy.
- (e.) Depôts for Cattle, Pigs, Sheep and Goats.
- (f.) Disinfection of Infected Premises.
- (g.) Domestic Cleanliness and Ventilation.
- (h.) Importation and Inspection of Animals.
- (i.) Latrines.
- (j.) Laundry.
- (k.) Prevention and Mitigation of Epidemic, Endemic, Contagious or Infectious Diseases.
- (l.) Prevention of the breeding of Mosquitoes.
- (m.) Removal of Ceiling and Star Linings.
- (n.) Removal of Patients.

QUESTION—THE BUILDING COLLAPSE.

The Hon. Dr. Ho Kai asked the following question which stood in his name:—"Will the Honourable the Attorney-General state whether he has any objection to give the reasons which governed him in not filing an indictment for manslaughter at the last Sessions in the Portland Street Building Collapse Case?"

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—The matter is one of public interest and I am very glad of the opportunity of giving the reasons which governed me in the matter. They are as follows:—

After the Coroner's enquiry the Prosecution obtained important expert evidence as to the construction of the buildings. This evidence did not establish such a degree of negligence as could justify a prosecution for manslaughter and in the opinion of the Attorney-General, no jury could possibly have convicted having regard to it.

The evidence also clearly demonstrated that the main supervision of the work was not controlled by Mr. Bird and as a fact the Building Contract specifically defined the Architects to be "Clement Palmer and Arthur Turner" and did not include the name of Mr. Bird. This point however was not material having regard to the absence of proof of negligence previously alluded to.

In the Shaukiwan case the evidence taken before the Coroner on the other hand clearly established grave negligence against the Contractor.

NEW TERRITORIES SMALL DEBT COURT ORDINANCE.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to empower a Magistrate to hold a small debt court in the New Territories and to regulate the proceedings in relation thereto.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

MAGISTRATES ORDINANCE AMENDMENT ORDINANCE.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL moved the first reading of a bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the Magistrates Ordinance 1890 and to effect certain other amendments in the Criminal Law.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

FIRE INSURANCE COMPANIES ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend The Fire Insurance Companies Ordinance 1908.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

INTERPRETATION ORDINANCE AMENDMENT.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend The Interpretation Ordinance 1897 and to remove an ambiguity in the construction of the same.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

COMPANIES ORDINANCE AMENDMENT.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance further to amend The Companies Ordinance, 1865.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

THE TRAMWAYS ORDINANCE.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL—With regard to the next order which stands in my name, Committee on the bill entitled An Ordinance for Authorizing the Construction of a Tramway within the Colony of Hongkong, it is not proposed to proceed with it to-day.

His EXCELLENCY—The Council stands adjourned until next Thursday.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was then held, the Colonial Secretary presiding. The following votes were passed:—

PUBLIC WORKS EXTRAORDINARY.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of Five thousand Dollars (\$5,000) in aid of the vote, Public Works Extraordinary, Miscellaneous, Blake Pier Shelter.

MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of one thousand seven hundred dollars (\$1,700) in aid of the vote, Miscellaneous Services, Stationery.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of Eighty-six thousand five hundred forty-seven Dollars and sixty cents (\$86,547.60) in aid of the vote, Miscellaneous Services, for the following items:—

Indian Police Remittances.	\$ 7,600.00
Cancer Research Fund.	35.60
Tropical Diseases Research Fund.	118.65
Department of Chinese in London	
University.	35.60
Imperial Institute.	237.30
Redemption of Subsidiary Coin.	78,520.45

Total \$86,547.60

The COLONIAL SECRETARY explained that this vote represented the excess on the provision of \$36,000 in the Estimates for Redemption of Sub-coin. The total sum was therefore \$114,620. It represented the loss on redemption of the sub-coin withdrawn from circulation during a period of 16 months and on sale of a quantity sub-coin to the face value of \$274,000 odd not issued and now sold.

Hon. Mr. GRESSON asked if the sum now voted would increase the estimated deficit at the end of the year.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY said it would.

PUBLIC WORKS RECURRENT

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of One thousand four hundred Dollars (1,400) in aid of the vote, Public Works, Recurrent, Miscellaneous Services.

BOTANICAL AND FORESTRY DEPARTMENT.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of nine hundred dollars (\$900) in aid of the vote, Botanical and Forestry Department, other charges, for the following items:—

Forestry in New Territories	400
Tree planting	\$500

Total \$900

EDUCATIONAL VOTES.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of Two hundred Dollars (\$200) in aid of the vote, Education, other charges, Belilios Public School, Anglo Chinese Side, Language Bonus.

POLICE AND PRISON DEPARTMENTS.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of Two hundred and eighty-five Dollars (\$285) in aid of the vote, Police and Prison Departments, A.—Police, Personal Emoluments, Captain Superintendent, House Allowance.

TYPHOON DAMAGES.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of Sixty-one thousand Dollars (\$61,000) in aid of the vote, Public Works, Recurrent, Miscellaneous, Typhoon and Rain-storm Damages.

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE HONGKONG APPEAL COURT.

INTERESTING CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE CHIEF JUSTICE AND THE GOVERNOR.

The following correspondence was laid before the Legislative Council on the 3rd inst.:—

Chambers, Supreme Court,

Hongkong, 25th September, 1908.

SIR.—I have read the remarks which Your Excellency made in Council on Thursday last on the subject of the third Judge with surprise and regret; and I must enter a very respectful but emphatic protest against Your Excellency's view as reported in the newspapers, that "the existing Appeal Court must necessarily be a farce," and that this view is supported by the Chief Justice. The public expression of such a view is calculated to do the gravest harm to the prestige of the Supreme Court in the eyes not only of Europeans but also of the Chinese.

2. That the constitution of the Appeal Court is extraordinary in so wealthy a Colony as Hongkong is a fact which I have always admitted: that it deserves the strongest hostile criticism, may also be conceded. But that is a very different thing from saying that it is a farce; for this implies that the Chief Justice is obstinately tenacious of his own opinions, and that he will never change them whatever new arguments may be advanced on the appeal. Such an idea is contrary to the high—and they are very high—traditions of the British Bench to which I have the honour to belong.

3. I know that the idea to which Your Excellency gave expression was current in the Colony, and I took occasion some time ago in Court to say that the constitution of the Appeal Court being what it was I conceived it to be my duty to make the best of it, and I assured the profession that I came to the hearing of an appeal with a mind absolutely free and treated it so far as possible as a new case. Only recently I said with the same object in view that a Judge is always assumed to have the honesty necessary to reverse his own decision if, on further argument, it is shown to be wrong. A second argument often puts things in a new light, and points often occur to one which did not present themselves on the first. A second argument and a second judgment upholding the first may lead to a clearer appreciation of the law, and prevent an appeal to the Privy Council. Although it has not happened up to the present that I have had occasion to reverse a judgment I have given, on minor points I have frequently had occasion to change my views, and I can quite conceive the possibility of my doing so on a crucial issue.

4. I am at the present time engaged in preparing a judgment on an important appeal: it took many days to argue in the Full Court: the writing of the judgment will probably take 10 full mornings' work, of at least four hours a day, and though I am now half way through I have not the remotest idea what the ultimate judgment will be. It is not impossible that this judgment may prevent the case going to the Privy Council. Your Excellency will agree that when so much care is given to appeals the word "farce" is hardly applicable; and it is the more unfortunate that such an expression of opinion should have fallen from Your Excellency while a judgment in an appeal case is pending. I must confess that I should not like to deliver a judgment even on a small matter which was deemed to be given in farcial conditions. I think therefore that Your Excellency will not hesitate to remove the impression which must have been caused by the remark at some future sitting of the Council.

5. The report of Your Excellency's speech also says that you have, like Your Excellency's predecessor, found the general opinion to be that except for the purposes of an Appeal Court, a third Judge is not immediately required. I think it my duty to point out to Your Excellency that I know no one who is familiar with the working of the Court who is of that opinion. The fact is that the pressure of the last few months has been so great that we had arrived almost at breaking point, and this is by no means the first time. If I had been laid up for even 2 days with influenza, the whole work of the Court would have been dislocated to the great inconvenience of suitors. I can only add that I was in hopes that the Government would show some slight consideration for myself.—I have &c.

F. T. PIGGOTT,
Chief Justice.

His Excellency

Sir Frederick Lugard, K.C.M.G.,
Governor of Hongkong.

Government House,

Hongkong, 26th September, 1908.

SIR.—In reply to your letter of yesterday's date I have the honour to inform you that I did not use the word "farce" in connection with the existing Appeal Court of this Colony. I spoke deliberately and I am correctly reported by the *South China Morning Post* as having used the word "unsatisfactory." I was so anxious to make it plain to the Council that I intended no reflection whatever upon the Court, but only criticised its constitution,—in the way you have yourself criticised it, that I added further explanatory words (which have been omitted by the Reporters) to the following effect: "It is no less unsatisfactory to the Chief Justice himself than to litigants for if he reverses his former decision after hearing fuller evidence, more especially if this should occur more than once—he may lay himself open to the innuendo that he does not know his own mind, or that he is influenced by his Junior. If on the other hand he confirms his former decisions it may be alleged that the Appeal is a farce."

These as near as I can recollect are the precise words used by me in this connection. I think Your Honour will agree with me that it would be difficult to select words which would more completely dispose of the interpretation conveyed in your second paragraph.

The only authentic report, the Colonial *Hansard*, has already been revised in this sense.

I regret to note from the last sentence of Your Honour's letter that you still remain under the erroneous impression which I have so frequently and with such apparent ill success, endeavoured to remove, that the Government is disposed to show no consideration towards yourself.—I have, &c.

F. D. LUGARD,
Governor, &c.

His Honour the Chief Justice.

Chambers, Supreme Court,

Hongkong, 29th September, 1908.

SIR.—I am much obliged for the courteous information conveyed in Your Excellency's letter of the 26th instant informing me of the actual words used by Your Excellency in your speech in Council on the subject of the constitution of the Full Court. The *China Mail* and the *Daily Press* reported it in the way in which I referred to it in my letter; and it seems to me probable that the reporters jumped from the beginning of Your Excellency's remarks to the end, seizing on the words "the appeal is a farce" as making good copy. I much regret to inform Your Excellency that the words actually used in your speech are open to the same objection that I have already expressed to Your Excellency, and are entirely at variance with the traditions of the Bench. No one who is familiar with the work of a Judge could suggest that if after hearing fuller evidence in a case or in several cases, the Chief Justice reversed his former decision he did not know his own mind, because it may be precisely this fuller information (which on appeal is fuller argument, and rarely fuller

vidence) which has made the case plainer than it was on the first hearing when this information was not forthcoming. Nor could there be any "innuendo" to the effect that he has been influenced by his Junior. The Chief Justice is only *primus inter pares*. The Full Court as at present constituted enables the Chief Justice to have the assistance of the Puisne Judge; discussion on abstruse legal questions often makes points clearer than they were when first dealt with by one Judge. And for the reasons given in my former letter the fact that the Chief Justice with the assistance of the Puisne Judge confirms his former decision cannot in any circumstances render the appeal a farce.

2. The defects of the present system are patent; but with much respect, they are not those which Your Excellency has pointed out. And the emphasis, which has been laid upon them by Your Excellency cannot fail to be very detrimental to the prestige of the Court among both Europeans and Chinese, which it has been my constant aim to maintain at the highest level.

3. With reference to the last paragraph of the letter under reply Your Excellency is always every good in assuring me that my opinion is not well-founded when I say that the Government shows no consideration of the Chief Justice. I can only say that 3½ years experience does not bear out Your Excellency's courteous intentions. The question is one which I have very much at heart, and so long as I am Chief Justice of the Colony I shall continue to do so. Let me put to Your Excellency two instances which will explain my meaning.

For 3 years I have pointed out that the Chief Justice has to do the work of two Judges. Acting on information which was never submitted to me Sir M. Nathan practically informed the Secretary of State that this was not a fact. I have at last through Your Excellency's courtesy been shown this information, and have pointed out that it was inaccurate from beginning to end. I have received no answer, so that I must assume that my opinion is disregarded. Even the carefully drawn-up Tables which I had prepared and which support my statement have elicited no comment. Even as one Judge doing the work of two at certain periods of the year I have to work "double tides" to get through the work. One of such periods which has covered the last 3 or 4 months is just over; and yet Your Excellency has informed the Council in spite of my re-iterated opinion that there is no immediate necessity for a third Judge. The effect of this on my mind can only be that the opinion of the Government is that I only want a third Judge appointed to save myself work. Surely Your Excellency will agree that this is a case of want of consideration for the Chief Justice.

Let me take another case. There was a suggestion in one of Your Excellency's letters that an Appeal Court could be formed with the assistance of the Judge of Shanghai. I learn from Your Excellency's speech in Council that the suggestion has been forwarded to the Secretary of State in the concrete form that the Judge of Shanghai should come to Hongkong to sit as an Appeal Judge twice a year. If Your Excellency had asked my opinion before sending this suggestion forward, I should have pointed out the difficulties in the way of making the scheme effective, and the inconveniences which must result from it: that changes must be made in the law and Code of Procedure; and that it can only work by most seriously hampering the other business of the Court. This quite apart from the inherent objection to the scheme.

But the scheme has apparently been approved at home, and I shall have to work it. As in the case of the third Judge, the opinion of people who knew little or nothing of the matter was held of more weight than mine, so here: when, as is inevitable, I point out the unworkable nature of the scheme as sent from home, I shall probably be told that others think differently.

Your Excellency will I think agree with me that I have some cause for the view I have so frequently expressed that little consideration is paid to the Chief Justice's opinion in matters relating to the administration of Justice.—I have, &c.,

F. T. PIGGOTT,
Chief Justice.

His Excellency
Sir Frederick Lugard, K.C.M.G.,
Governor of Hongkong.

Government House,
Hongkong, 6th October, 1908.

SIR.—I regret to learn from your letter of September 29th, that my explanation of the actual words used by me in reference to the Court of Appeal and which I had believed would entirely dispose of Your Honour's cause of protest have not had that result.

2. Your Honour contends that "no one who is familiar with the work of a Judge" could attribute to him any but the highest motives when hearing an Appeal, whatever his decision might be. But the words used by me ("innuendo" and "alleged" &c.) made it I had hoped amply clear that I was not referring to well informed persons but to disappointed litigants and irresponsible critics. I expressed in fact only the views which I have understood yourself and Mr. Justice Wise to have affirmed. The words of the latter in this connection (forwarded to me as an enclosure in Your Honour's letter of the 29th February, 1908,) were:—"As at present constituted the Appeal Court consists of the Chief Justice and the Puisne Judge, from one of whom the appeal necessarily lies, and the Chief Justice has a casting vote. The result is that anyone who has the money will appeal against the decision of the Puisne Judge (in consequence of the casting vote) but that no one will appeal against a decision of the Chief Justice unless he intends to carry the case to the Privy Council."

3. In reply to your third paragraph I can only repeat the statement made by me in my observations on the Estimates after giving due prominence to the fact that Your Honour held the view that a Third Judge was necessary to cope with the work of the Supreme Court,—viz.:—that after consulting those best qualified to advise me I considered the weight of opinion was in favour of the view that a Third Judge was not immediately necessary, but I hoped that when the new Courts were finished the Colony would be in a position to incur the expense involved. Your Honour was as you cordially admit informed of the arguments which had been adduced in this connection and had an opportunity of fully disposing of them. Your letters were forwarded to the Secretary of State and you were so informed, and I am therefore at a loss to know what further reply you expected, the absence of which leads you to the conclusion that your opinion is disregarded. So soon as the reply of the Secretary of State is received it will of course be communicated to you, but in the meantime I presume from the telegram (which I at once sent to you on receipt) that after a perusal of correspondence he has adhered to his former view that the appointment of a Third Judge can be temporarily deferred. In this matter which you select as a "flagrant instance that the local Government shows no consideration to the Chief Justice," I can find no possible ground for such a conclusion.

We are all agreed that the appointment of a Third Judge would be most desirable,—but it is my duty to examine the comparative urgency of a number of extremely desirable requirements in relation to the finances of the Colony—and I have come to the conclusion so far as my personal view is concerned (the final decision resting with the Secretary of State after perusing Your Honour's arguments and the Table to which you refer) that in the coming year the Colony cannot afford a Third Judge. Provision has, however, been made for a Deputy Official Receiver on Your Honour's recommendation.

4. As regards the second case cited, I did make the suggestion regarding the Shanghai Judge in my letter to Your Honour of 8th February last. I did not go into it in detail until I should hear from the Secretary of State as to whether the idea was possible since Your Honour had stated that you considered it to be out of the question for a Foreign Office Judge to come here unless there were reciprocity, which was impossible. At your desire I have cabled to the Secretary of State to inform him that you would wish to express an opinion regarding the working of the scheme before its details are decided.

5. I have replied at some length to the concrete instances brought forward by Your Honour in support of your view that "little consideration is paid to the opinion of the

Chief Justice in matters affecting the administration of justice" but I fear that it is beyond my power to remove what appears to have become an *idée fixe* in your mind.—I have, &c.,

F. D. LUGARD,
Governor, &c.

His Honour
The Chief Justice.

Chambers, Supreme Court,
Hongkong, 28th October, 1908.

SIR.—I much regret to find on perusing Your Excellency's speech on the second reading of the Appropriation Ordinance on Thursday 8th October that Your Excellency did not take the opportunity of correcting the impression left on the readers of some of the reports of Your Excellency's speech, that in your view appeals to the Full Court as at present constituted were a farce. I had hoped that for the reasons, and with the materials which I had supplied to Your Excellency in my letters on subject, some allusion would have been made to the subject.

2. Your Excellency's remarks, as published in the papers, are as I have already pointed out in my letter of 29th September calculated to undo the work which I have done in promoting confidence in the Full Court in spite of its admittedly unsatisfactory constitution. Very shortly the Full Court will have to deliver important judgments in a case on appeal from my decision at *nisi prius*, which has been argued before it at great length. It may be that I shall differ from the Puisne Judge; it may be that I shall maintain my former opinion; but as to both of these questions the matter is still under consideration. But should these things happen the suggestion engendered in the popular mind by the report of Your Excellency's speech, and especially in that of the disappointed litigant, will inevitably be that the appeal has been a farce. I should therefore be obliged if Your Excellency would lay the correspondence on the Table of Council. It is of the first necessity that the appeal to the Full Court should be considered by all, whether well or ill informed people, as a serious matter, and not as a farce.

3. I note what Your Excellency says on the subject in paragraph 2 of your letter of the 6th October; but I regret that I cannot agree with it. I do not think that the remarks actually made by Your Excellency are at all calculated to promote confidence in the Court, for they suggest criticisms of the Chief Justice's judgments which would not otherwise occur to litigants or even ill-informed people. But the actual words used by Your Excellency are not before the public, as no one except members of Councils see the local *Hansard*.—I have, &c.,

F. T. PIGGOTT, Chief Justice.

His Excellency
Sir Frederick Lugard, K.C.M.G.,
Governor of Hongkong.

Government House,
Hongkong, 2nd November, 1908.

SIR.—I have the honour to acknowledge your letter of October 28th having reference to the words used by me in a speech regarding the constitution of the Full Court. I am anxious to meet Your Honour's wishes as far as seems to me practicable, but since as you point out the members of the Council already have the corrected version of what I said before them in the *Hansard* there seems no object in laying it before them in a separate paper. Your Honour is anxious as I understand that it should be made known that I did not use the words attributed to me in the Local Press that the appeal to the Full Court is a farce, and I will if you so desire cause a letter to be written to the Press quoting the words in *Hansard*. Sessional Papers consist of the annual report from Departments and other permanent records of the Colony and I do not think that the correspondence in question is of a nature to be included with them.

2. With reference to the question of a Third Judge I have the honour to enclose in original for your perusal and favour of return a private letter I have just received from Sir H. de Sausmarez together with a copy of the despatch from Secretary of State dated 18th September, 1908. I personally agree with the view expressed by Sir H. de Sausmarez.—I have, &c.,

F. D. LUGARD, Governor, &c.,
His Honour The Chief Justice.

Chambers, Supreme Court,
Hongkong, 4th November, 1908.

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge Your Excellency's letter of 2nd November, on the subject of Your Excellency's remarks in Council on the present constitution of the Full Court.

2. I fear that the publication in the newspapers of the remarks actually used by Your Excellency would do more harm than good; for where the words as reported might have been looked upon as an unfortunate slip, had the impression created by them been corrected at a subsequent sitting of the Council, the publication of the remarks actually made by Your Excellency unaccompanied by my own observations, would seem to indicate that they embodied, as I fear they do, Your Excellency's opinion on the question.

3. With regard to laying the correspondence on the Table of the Council, Your Excellency forgets that one of the principal objects of the practice is to make the papers so laid public. I have had a long experience of procedure in Legislative Council, and I think that correspondence which has passed between the Chief Justice and the Governor relative to remarks made by the Governor in the Council prejudicial to the administration of justice may fittingly be laid upon the Table.

4. I propose to deal with the matter referred to in the second paragraph of the letter under reply in a separate letter.—I have, &c.

F. T. PIGGOTT, Chief Justice.

His Excellency

Sir Frederick Lugard K.C.M.G.,

Governor of Hongkong.

Government House.

Hongkong, 16th November, 1908.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of November 4th in which you inform me that my proposal to cause the actual words used by me when addressing the Council on the subject of the Appeal Court to be published in the Local Press will not meet your view.

In deference to your opinion as Chief Justice that the remarks made by me may be prejudicial to the administration of justice I have directed that this correspondence shall be laid on the table of the Legislative Council as you desire. But I do not propose to include the enclosure of the Secretary of State's despatch or the private letter to me from Sir H. de Sausmarez which raise a separate issue.—I have, &c.

F. D. LUGARD,

Governor, &c.

His Honour the Chief Justice.

FADED FEMININITY.

Before Mr. J. R. Wood at the Magistracy on Nov. 30 an aged Chinese woman was charged with causing grievous bodily harm to a small boy at Wanchai on Sunday. At low tide the parties were searching for stray pieces of coal on the seashore, and the boy finding a large piece, the old woman attempted to take it from him. The youth, however, declined to give it up, and in a struggle the woman shoved him on some rocks, his arm being broken in the fall.

When she was taken to the Wanchai Police Station, Inspector Fenton suggested that the woman should have a wash. This she indignantly declined, remarking that she had not washed herself for six years. She felt warmer without, and saw no reason why she should take any pains over her personal appearance as she was 64 years of age. Even if she did make herself presentable, she did not think she would now have any opportunity of decoying another man, as the affections of the sterner sex were bestowed on youth and beauty only.

The woman was ordered to pay the boy \$2 compensation.

As a mark of respect to the memory of the late Empress Dowager and Emperor, the inmates of the House of Detention in the Mixed Court, Shanghai, are said to be daily doing homage before their late Majesties' tablets, engraved by them. The local native papers greatly appreciate the fact that, although the men are in prison, they do not forget to mourn for their deceased rulers.

THE SCOTTISH BALL.

A BRILLIANT SUCCESS.

It would be impossible to think of the Scottish Ball in Hongkong as other than a success. Both as a reunion of the sons and daughters of Scotia and as a social function it eclipses any gathering of its kind in the East, and this reputation which it has enjoyed for half a century and more was worthily upheld by the gathering on Nov. 30th. It was indeed a brilliant success.

St. Andrew's Day, the day when Scotsmen meet to honour the memory of their patron saint, has always been held in greater regard by exiled Scots, as they choose to designate themselves, than by the people of Scotland itself. Why this should be so is rather difficult to understand, but one reason may be that the patriotism of the Scot is not really aroused until he has left his native land. Certainly Scotsmen abroad delight in all the opportunities they have of foregathering together and remembering the land of brown heath and shaggy wood, whether it be St. Andrew's Day, New Year, or the anniversary of the birthday of Burns, and the large Scottish community in Hongkong is just as enthusiastic as any in strengthening the ties which bind it to Scotland and in recalling associations of the dear homeland.

The St. Andrew's Society of Hongkong, perhaps the largest Scottish body in the Far East, is not exactly a social institution, though that aspect is very much emphasized at present. Its *raison d'être* is really philanthropic but happily not many calls are made upon its funds by distressed Scots in this part of the world. Still this phase of its existence is not overlooked and it is pleasant to know that needed help is given where desirable and that too in a quiet unostentatious manner without letting the right hand know what the left hand doeth. The Society, which was founded in 1847, has seen sixty-one years of useful work. It has grown with the Colony, and to-day it ranks as one of its most praiseworthy institutions.

THE DECORATIONS.

The decorations were very effective indeed. The stairway was embellished with pot plants and the pillars were festooned with greenery, but the most striking effect was found on the landing where two large St. Andrew's crosses flanked the lion rampant, surmounted by the Royal Standard and red ensigns. At the base in illuminated figures stood out the dates 1847—1908, indicating the age of the Society. Above the stairway was the Scottish thistle outlined in electric bulbs and supported by shields and warlike weapons. On the walls were the shields covering battleaxes, spears and two handed swords, accompanied by white ensigns. Practically the whole landing and stairway were hidden under a mass of greenery and pot plants in the midst of which glowed vari-coloured lights. As might have been expected the greatest attempt at decoration was found in St. Andrew's Hall. On entering, the gaze was arrested by a painting of Auld Reekie, with Edinburgh Castle proudly dominating the scene. The lights in the Castle and the Grassmarket were very effective, and Mr. G. Duncan, of Kowloon Dock, the artist, is to be complimented on his work which was much admired. This picture of Edinburgh was of course complimentary to the President, the Hon. Mr. Chatham, who hails from "Scotia's darling seat." Flanking this were the arms of past presidents, Messrs. Gershom Stewart and R. Shewan. Underneath the picture of Edinburgh was a representation, of St. Andrew, and facing this was the Society's coat of arms surmounted by the lion rampant. On the left side of the wall were pictures of Burns, Duke of Gordon and Scott. The Duke of Gordon was the founder of the famous regiment, the Gordon Highlanders, whose Duchess, it will be remembered, gave such a flip to recruiting by promising a kiss to each man who enlisted. The opposite wall had portraits of Knox, a Newhaven fishwife and Mary Queen of Scots. On the boxes beneath these were the names of places associated with each. For instance under Burns was the name of Kirk Alloway, under the Duke of Gordon the name of Ordaquish and under Scott the name of Aberfoyle. Knox was of course associated with Dunottar, the fishwife with Musselburgh,

and Mary Queen of Scots, with Loch Leven, from which she made such a romantic escape. Festoons of greenery hung from the walls and coloured lights and palms embellished the pillars, while curtains were hung from the windows.

St George's Hall did not call for much elaborate treatment. The picture of the young Queen Victoria, flanked with appropriate flags, held the place of honour. Facing it was a huge St. Andrew's cross with the Scottish lion in the centre. Curtains adorned the arches and exits and pot plants and electric bulbs added to the general effect.

The reception room was as before, its only decoration being the national arms.

The theatre, used as a supper room, looked very pretty indeed under a decoration which was largely floral. The balcony was decorated with Gordon tartan and shields covering the three old time weapons—spear, battleaxe and two handed sword. The motto "I'll drink a cup tae Scotland yet" adorned the wall, but the most artistic effect was found on the stage, where the horse shoe table beautifully decorated with flowers and a vase of electrically illuminated flowers, stood conspicuous.

Before leaving the decorations, reference should be made to the place names which were used for "trysting" purposes. On previous years Scottish county names and other names had been utilised, but on this occasion insignificant out of the way places were honoured by recognition. Among the number were Crianlarich and Tignabruach, fairly well known on the West Coast, but what could be said regarding the selection of Tilquhillie, Foggielean, Auchterless Cambusavie and Tochineal, not to speak of such unpronounceable names as Lochluichart, Auchnashellach, Balquharn, Dalnaspidal and Balquhadder? Still, they achieved their purpose, and served as identification marks.

"Auchtermuchty" was as of yore the password to the bar downstairs, and, needless to say most people mastered it.

The verandahs were simply adorned with bunting.

Messrs. Duncan, Andrew, and H. Wynne were closely identified with the work of decoration, on the result of which they are entitled to great credit.

THE OFFICIALS.

The bulk of the work, of course, fell on Mr. David Wood, the hon. secretary who brought a ripe experience and no little application to bear in the discharge of duties which called for tact and discretion. He was assisted by the following committees:

Invitation Committee:—Hon. Mr. W. Chatham, C.M.G., Messrs. J. B. M. Smith, Robert Shewan, T. F. Hough, C. H. Ross, R. Mitchell, W. C. Jack, W. Armstrong, Murray Stewart, A. S. Fraser, D. R. Law, J. C. Peter, Hon. Mr. A. M. Thomson, Mr. E. Ormiston, and Capt. Campbell Heathcote, A.D.C.

Decoration Committee:—Messrs. J. I. Andrew (Convener); A. M. Marshall, R. Mitchell, G. Duncan, G. Grant, W. H. Donald, J. Walker, O. D. Thomson, H. S. Wynne, R. Dickson, and Hon. Secretary.

Supper and Wines Committee:—Messrs. J. D. Auld, H. M. Bain, W. D. Braidwood, A. Bryson, H. F. Campbell (Convener), H. F. Carmichael, Capt. J. Douglas, Messrs. W. D. Graham, J. Hall, J. D. Logan, D. McDonald, A. V. Monk, A. C. More, J. Patterson, A. Rodger, S. B. C. Ross, E. Grant Smith, G. Morton Smith, A. T. Walker, W. Wilson, and Hon. Secretary.

Dancing and Music Committee:—Messrs. C. H. Ross (Convener), W. Armstrong, Murray Stewart, H. G. C. Bailey, A. Sinclair, A. S. Fraser, W. L. Carter, T. Skinner, E. F. MacKay, C. G. Mackie, Capt. Campbell Heathcote and Hon. Secretary.

Card Room Committee:—Messrs. G. G. D. Forsyth, J. W. C. Bonnar, (Convener), W. N. Fleming, J. McCubbin and R. R. Hynd.

Ladies' Room Committee:—Dr. C. Forsyth (Convener) and Mr. Jas. D. Auld.

THE DANCE.

Guests began to arrive shortly before nine o'clock and a steady stream continued for some time later. It was estimated that fully 1,300 people were present, quite as large, if not a larger, number than at previous balls, so that it was easily apparent there was no falling off in the popularity of this function. Of course it was

impossible that that number could dance at one time, but the attractions of the card room and the good company and good wine downstairs drew many from the scene of the more active pleasures. Even then the accommodation was limited, but as the greatest good humour prevailed nothing could detract from the general happiness.

H.E. the Governor was met at the entrance by "Chief" Chatham and members of the General Committee and piped to the entrance of St. Andrew's Hall, when the band played the National Anthem. Dancing commenced shortly after nine o'clock to excellent music supplied by the Band of the Buffs, the ball being officially opened by the dancing of the Lancers. The official set was composed of His Excellency the Governor and Mrs. Chatham; Honourable Mr. W. Chatham, C.M.G., President, and Mrs. Lyon; H.E. Hon. Sir Hedworth Lambton, K.C.V.O., K.C.B. and Mrs. Smith; Mr. J. R. M. Smith, and Mrs. May; Mr. T. F. Hough, and Mrs. Gresson; H.E. Major-General R. G. Broadwood, C.B. and Mrs. Peter; Commodore Herbert Lyons and Mrs. MacKay; Mr. Murray Stewart and Mrs. Ormiston.

The pipers of the H.K.S.B.R.G.A. played the music for the Strathspey and reel and the Caledonians.

The programme was as follows:

EXTRA WALTZ.

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Lancers. | 12. Two Step. |
| 2. Waltz. | 13. Waltz. |
| 3. Caledonians. | 14. Eightsome Reel. |
| 4. Waltz. | 15. Polka. |
| 5. Eightsome Reel. | 16. Strathspey and Reel. |
| 6. Two Step. | 17. Highland Schottische. |
| 7. Caledonians. | 18. Caledonians. |
| 8. Strathspey & Reel. | 19. Eightsome Reel. |
| 9. Waltz. | 20. Waltz. |
| 10. Two Step. | 21. Two Step. |
| 11. Waltz. | 22. Waltz and Galop. |

A number of "extras" were introduced and dancing was brought to a close about three o'clock this morning.

THE SUPPER.

After the eighth dance an adjournment was made for supper, which, as usual, was served in two relays. The President's party was piped from St. George's Hall to the theatre by Mr. H. G. C. Bailey. In addition to those who took part in the official set the party included Hon. Mr. F. H. May, C.M.G., and Mrs. Atkinson. Hon. Mr. W. Rees Davies and Mrs. Jack. Hon. Sir C. P. Chater, C.M.G., and Mrs. Lethem. Mr. R. Mitchell and Mrs. Gompertz. Hon. Mr. E. A. Hewett and Mrs. Bayard. Mr. W. Lethem and Mrs. Chamier. Mr. W. C. Jack and Mrs. Stewart. Sir Francis Lovell and Mrs. J. W. C. Bonnar.

During supper, the President or Chieftain proposed "The King," which having been honoured was followed by the toast "The pious memory of St. Andrew."

Hon. Mr. CHATHAM in proposing this said—Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen. It is my privilege to welcome you here to-night on the occasion of our great Scottish Festival. Scotsmen in all parts of the world are celebrating St. Andrew's Day and keeping alive in an unaggressive way that national spirit which plays so important a part in all matters, social and otherwise. Scotsmen have ever played an important part in local affairs and our gathering here to-night is a proof that our Society maintains its vigour and that its members continue to be a power in the Colony. (Applause). There is a prevalent idea abroad that Scotsmen are somewhat imonious but any one who is acquainted with the real Scottish character will, I venture to say, contradict this. I will tell you a small anecdote which illustrates the true Scottish character. A clergyman visiting a parishioner in humble circumstances asked for a drink of water and was offered a glass of milk. He demurred to drinking it, as he thought the woman could not afford it, but she speedily reassured him by saying "Drink it up, minister, drink it up. The soo just gets it onyway." (laughter). We Scotsmen in Hongkong merely emulate the example of our humble countrywoman in entertaining you here to-night, but I presume it is unnecessary for me to repeat her kindly words of encouragement. In the ordinary course of events, we must fall aside but I feel sure I am echoing the wish of all members when I say:—Long may our St. Andrew's Society

continue to flourish and may its members ever be able to say in the words of the poet "I'm proud tae think that I'm a Scotsman born." (Applause).

The toast having been drunk in silence, the interesting ceremony of bringing in the haggis followed. Mr. Bailey played in the haggis, which was carried by Mr. James Walker and placed in front of the Chieftain, who, having given the carrier of the haggis and the "barley bree" (Captain Campbell Heathcote) a dram from the quaich, partook himself and then offered it to the gentlemen guests. The whisky bearer having supplied each gentleman guest with a dram, the ceremony ended, and the pipers played behind the curtain.

The menu was an interesting document, but we let it speak for itself.

"We'll tak' a cup o' kindness yet, for auld lang syne."

MENU.

"Some hae meat and canna eat,
And some wad eat that want it;
But we hae meat and we can eat,
And sae the Lord be thankit."

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1.—Saddle of Mutton | 2.—Roast Turkey |
| 3.—York Ham | 4.—Roast Capon |
| 5.—Corned Beef | 6.—Game Pie |
| 7.—Pate de Foie Gras in Jelly | |
| 8.—Chicken Salad | 9.—Hot Potatoes |
| 10.—THE HAGGIS. | |

"Fair fa' your honest souse face,
Great chieftain o' the puddin' race.
Aboon them a' ye tak your place."

"Freedom and whisky gang the gither. Tak
aff your dram."

SWEETS.

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 11.—Gooseberry | 12.—Jellies |
| 13.—Blanc Mange | 14.—Vanilla Ice Cream |
| 15.—Chocolate Ice Cream. | |

"Breathes there the man with soul so dead
Who never to himself hath said
'This is my own, my native land,'
Whose heart hath ne'er within him burn'd
As home his footsteps he hath turn'd
From wandering on a foreign strand!"

GREETINGS.

The Chieftain read his own and Hongkong Scots telegram to Brithers Scots of Tientsin, Singapore, Manila, Foochow, Weihaiwei, Penang, Amoy, Shanghai, Yokohama, Kobe, and Nagasaki, as follows:—

Chief Chatham and Hongkong Scots greet brithers Scots. David Wood, hon secretary.

The following replies were read:

G. C. Anderson, past president of the Society, to Hon. W. Chatham, C.M.G., President of Hongkong S. Andrew's Society—Hail to the Chieftain, Scotland for ever.

From Yokohama. "Chief Maclaren and Brithers Scots send greetings. Tait Secretary."

From Kobe. "President Macfarish and Kobe Scots heartily reciprocate greetings brithers Scots Hongkong. Palletly, Secretary."

From Nagasaki. "Scots heartily reciprocate greetings. Chief Beazier."

From Weihaiwei. "Hearty greetings from Brithers Scots at Wei Hai Wei. Lockhart, President."

From Shanghai. "President, St. Andrew's Society, Hongkong, Chief Smart and Brithers Scots heartily reciprocate greetings."

From Foochow. "President, St. Andrew's Society, Hongkong. Foochow Brithers Scots heartily reciprocate kindly greetings. Rennie."

From Manila. "President, St. Andrew's Society Hongkong, Chief Underwood and Brithers Scots send greetings, Alex Yuill, Secretary."

From Singapore. "President St. Andrew's Society, Hongkong. Greetings frae Singapore Brithers Scots."

From Penang. "President St. Andrew's Society, Hongkong. Greetings frae Brithers Scots."

Greetings were also received from Tientsin, Amoy and Soerabaia.

THE DRESSES.

The dresses of the ladies were very pretty and very simple. There were a few Grecian, Empire and Directoire gowns in evidence, all very

effective, but the distinguishing feature of the dresses was their reasonable length.

Quite a number of the gentlemen appeared in the "garb of old Gaul," and with the naval and military uniforms the attire of the gentlemen was not so sombre as usual.

POPE'S SACERDOTAL JUBILEE.

To celebrate the sacerdotal jubilee of His Holiness Pope Pius X, the members of the Catholic Union held a literary and musical festival in the hall of their Club on Saturday evening. The red Chinese lanterns which lighted up the exterior of the building were tastefully arranged, and showed Mr. J. M. de Graca's scheme of decorations to advantage. The entrance to the hall was a pretty arbor of greenery, and above the door was an illuminated portrait of the Pope, the skilful work of Mr. M. A. Baptista. This was draped by the crossed flags of England and Portugal. The Pontifical Arms above the entrance to the Union grounds was also the work of this gentleman. Needless to say, there was a very large attendance which included His Excellency the Governor, who was accompanied by Captain Simson, A.D.C., and Mr. A. J. Brackenbury (Private Secretary). There were also present H. E. General Broadwood, Admiral Lambton, Commodore, Mrs. and Miss Lyons, the Hon. Mr. W. Rees Davies, K.C. (Attorney-General) and Hon. Mr. E. A. Hewett.

The evening's programme contained addresses in sixteen different languages, many of which were Oriental, even the Tibetan tongue being included. This is eloquent testimony of the expansion of the Catholic faith, and a brilliant advertisement of the energy of its Apostles in seeking new fields in which to sow the seed of Catholicism among unbelievers. Although in most instances the large audience listened to orations in unknown tongues, they were enabled always to follow the meaning of a speaker's address by reason of the pious eyed which he turned in the direction of a picture of the Pope standing on the stage, and as each speaker concluded with blessings on the head of the Holy Father the hall rang with applause.

The musical part of the programme opened with Wagner's grand march "Tannhauser" which was skilfully played by the orchestra of the Sociedade Philharmonica. Then a number of the pupils of the Italian Convent sang a "Hymn to the Pope," appreciative applause following them off the stage. Mme. A. P. Marty pleased with her song "Souvenez-vous," and Mrs. A. E. S. Alves gave an excellent rendering on the piano of "Rondo Capriccioso." Miss Angela Alves earned a well merited encore for her singing of "Salve Maria," and Miss Edith de Carvalho's beautiful voice was heard to advantage in the song "Inflammatus." The piano duet "Beatrice di Tenda" was skilfully played by the Misses Ah Wee and Best, and Mr. A. N. Clothier received an ovation for his singing of "Pro Peccatis." Mr. F. Gonzales' violin solo "Il Trovatore" was an excellent item. The programme ended with the chorus "Tu es Petrus," sung by the pupils of St. Joseph's College and friends, and accompanied by the Sociedade Philharmonica's orchestra. The committee of the festival were very liberal with bouquets, each lady who sang being recalled and presented with one. The accompanists for the evening were Miss Ah Wee and Messrs. E. Danenberg, A. V. da Silva and M. Galluzzi. The festival closed with a stanza of the National Anthem.

Mr. John Barrett, director of the International Bureau of South American Republics, said that the 6,000,000 inhabitants of the Argentine Republic did a bigger foreign trade last year than did China, with 300,000,000 inhabitants, and Japan, with 50,000,000 combined. If the United States had spent one tenth of what they did in the Orient America would have got it back twenty times. Japan is doing more to familiarize itself with the west coasts of Central and South America, and to develop commerce with it, than is the United States. Many Americans think there is nothing in Central and South America but revolutions, and are neglecting the opportunity which Japan and England are appreciating.

PUBLIC COMPANIES.

DAIRY FARM COMPANY.

Two extraordinary general meetings of shareholders in the above company were held on Dec. 1st at the offices. Mr. E. H. Hinds presided and there were present Dr. J. Noble (director), Jas. Walker (manager), S. A. Seth (secretary), J. M. E. Machado, and Chan Tong.

At the first meeting, which was opened at 12.30, the SECRETARY read the notice which stated that the meeting was called to confirm the subjoined resolutions, which were passed at the Extraordinary General Meeting of the Company held on the 17th day of November last:

1. "That the Capital of the Company be increased by the sum of \$112,500 divided into 15,000 shares of \$7.50 each and that the Directors be authorised to allot such shares pro rata among the existing shareholders according to the number of shares in respect of which they may, on the 27th day of October, 1908, be registered, in the proportion of three new shares for each complete lot of five shares held by them on that date and that any of such new shares remaining over after such allotment shall be dealt with by the Directors in their discretion."

2. That the Articles of Association of the Company be altered by deleting paragraph 2 of Article IX and by substituting therefor the following:—"2. The Register, or Registers, of shareholders and the Register of Transfers may be closed for such period or periods and at such time or times as the Directors may think fit, but the period or periods of such closure shall not exceed in the whole 30 days in any one year."

The CHAIRMAN—There is nothing for me to add to the notice, I simply propose the first resolution.

Mr. MACHADO seconded, and the resolution was carried.

The second resolution was also carried on the motion of the CHAIRMAN seconded by Mr. CHAN TONG.

The CHAIRMAN—That closes this meeting, I shall be pleased if you will stay for the next meeting.

The attendance was the same at the second meeting which was called for the purpose of considering and, if thought fit, passing the following Extraordinary Resolution:—"That the Directors be authorised to declare a bonus or dividend out of the Reserve and Cattle Reserve Funds or out of the accumulated profits of the Company sufficient to pay a call of \$6.00 per share upon the New Capital already authorised to be raised by Special Resolution and that such bonus or dividend be appropriated for the purpose of paying such call."

The CHAIRMAN proposed that the resolution be approved, which was seconded by Mr. MACHADO, and carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That concludes the meeting, gentlemen. Thank you for your attendance.

THE INTERNATIONAL COTTON MANUFACTURING CO., LD.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The thirteenth annual meeting of the above company was held at 15 Szechuen Road Shanghai on afternoon the 25th ult. There were present: Messrs. J. F. Seaman, A. Hide, and H. De Gray (Directors), G. Willeumier (Secretary) W. C. Wood, Leng Ming-yue, J. N. Jameson, J. M. Young, K. W. Campbell, H. J. Clark, W. G. Pirie, J. L. Carneiro, B. Rosenbaum, and L. J. Cubitt, representing 3,113 shares.

In the absence of the Chairman, Mr. Rayner, the Chair was taken by Mr. J. F. Seaman.

The Chairman,—Gentlemen, I must express regret that the absence of our Chairman, Mr. Rayner, on sick leave, again necessitates my occupying his place. We expected that he would have returned in time for this meeting and we have promise that he will be with us during the next month; meanwhile we have assurance that he fully concurs in the action we have recommended in dealing with the sum at credit of profit and loss. The report and accounts have been with you for some days and with your permission I shall assume that they have been read. It is, of course, a disappointment that we

are again unable to recommend payment of a dividend. Complaints were made last year by some of our friends that this was not done, and on the other hand we received criticism for not having written off anything for depreciation of our plant. The soundness of this criticism has been impressed upon us, especially in comparing, as far as published accounts allow, the sum we have thus assigned in past years with the similar assignments by our competitors. No sounder basis for this may be taken than the cost per spindle of equipment, that being the basis of earning power. Now we have found that in this respect at least one of our competitors has had somewhat of an advantage, which will be righted if you adopt the recommendations put before you in the Report. At the same time shareholders will note with no little satisfaction that when our Reserve Fund is taken into consideration and added to the amounts already set aside for depreciation, the total compares favourably with that of any of our competitors. As explanation of the small profit on the year's working we have only the well-worn reason of general trade depression to offer. It was this general depression which caused your Directors to meet the market as soon as any inquiry for yarn showed itself, which was the case during the latter half of the period under review, and in the light of subsequent events it would have been more remunerative to have held on to our yarn rather than to have sold readily. On the other hand, by adopting the less speculative policy, your mill has been kept continuously at work, A considerable decrease is noticeable in the still heavy item of interest, and for the first time in the history of the Company your directors are able to place before you accounts which show a clean sheet as regards our bank overdraft. This does not mean that we are not still dependent on banking facilities for the handling of the raw material pending realization of its product, but it shows some progress made towards the attainment of that end, and is the direct result of the conservation policy you have adopted in the past with respect to the disposal of profits, a policy which your directors cannot too strongly recommend you steadfastly to maintain. I have only to add that the mill has been maintained in complete repair and efficiency and no untoward occurrences have transpired. Should any shareholder present desire information on any point of interest, I should be happy to satisfy him, if within my power.

There being no questions, the following resolutions were put to the meeting and adopted nem. dis.

Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Hide: That the report and accounts for the year ending September 30, 1908, be accepted and passed.

Proposed by Mr. Hide, seconded by the Chairman: That the election of Mr. Harry De Gray to the Board of Directors be confirmed.

Proposed by Mr. Hide, seconded by Mr. de Gray: That Mr. J. F. Seaman be re-elected a director of the company.

Proposed by Mr. J. N. Jameson, seconded by Mr. J. M. Young: That Messrs. A. R. Leake & Co., Chartered Accountants, be re-elected auditors for the current year.

Before the meeting terminated the Chairman remarked that the Secretary had prepared a comparative table of the net profit of local cotton mills for the past seven years, excluding this year, from the published accounts, and the International Cotton Manufacturing Co. was second on the list—very slightly second. He thought that that was a satisfactory showing under the circumstances. In conclusion he expressed the hope that there would be better results next year.—N.C.D.N.

The Hankow race meeting was favoured with glorious weather and excellent sport was witnessed. The race for the champion sweepstakes was won by Mr. Reynell's "Heraldic" (for the third time) Springfield up. The "big sweep" proved a record for Hankow, the total amounting to nearly \$5,000. Mr. Danby of Chinkiang drew the winning pony. The "Heraldic" is to run at the Foochow races. This pony won five races at Hankow.

THE EWO SPINNING & WEAVING CO., LTD.

The report for presentation at the thirteenth ordinary meeting of shareholders to be held at the offices of the General Managers, Shanghai on Tuesday, 15th December, 1908, at 11 a.m. is as follows:—

The General Managers submit a statement of accounts to 31st October, 1908, showing the result of twelve months' working to that date.

The balance at credit of profit and loss is Tls. 110,109.42, which it is proposed to deal with as follows:—

	Tls.
To pay a dividend of Tls. 5.00 per share on 15,000 shares	75,000.00
To place to repairs and renewals account	25,000.00
To write off furniture account	1,289.09
To carry forward to new account	8,820.39
	<hr/> Tls. 110,109.42

During the year the sum of Tls. 15,574.53 has been expended on special repairs and renewals out of the amount of Tls. 45,939.90 set aside for that purpose in 1905.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

On his departure for Europe, Mr. E. E. Clark resigned his seat on the Committee and Mr. P. F. Lavers was invited to fill the vacancy.

In accordance with Article XVII, the Members of the Consulting Committee retire, but all are eligible and offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITOR.

Mr. G. B. Wingrove has audited the Company's Accounts and his re-election requires the confirmation of the shareholders.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., LTD.,
General Managers.

Shanghai, 20th November, 1908.

THE NATIONAL MOURNING.

All the yamens in Peking have stopped work for 27 days until the end of the official mourning period.

A recent edict prohibited the Provincial Authorities from coming to the Capital to visit the Imperial coffins. The Grand Council has however, decided to make an exception in favour of the officials of Chihli Province.

Certain high official proposed the postponement of the military manoeuvres. H. E. Yuan Shih Kai objected stating that such an act would alarm the populace unnecessarily and a resolution was accordingly passed that the manoeuvres should continue.

The Board of Communications at Peking has issued a notice to the effect that all letters and parcels sent through the post should be in blue covers as a sign of the national mourning.

One hundred and eighty Lamas are daily in attendance near the coffins of the Emperor and Empress-Dowager, reciting the ritual. They are dressed in yellow and stand in double rows.

The members of the Central Government at Peking have been considering the question of instituting an Advisory Board to advise the Government on all important matters as a preliminary to the establishment of a Parliament. The Board is to consist only of high officials of the first rank but there is no limit to their number. The great majority of the members of the Government are in favour of the proposal.

REBEL CHIEF KILLED.

GOVERNMENT PAYS £10,000 REWARD.

The Viceroy of Canton has been informed by telegram that the Rebel Chief, Wong Wo Shun, has been killed by several of his comrades who having surrendered and sworn allegiance to the Chinese Government, declared at the same time their willingness to capture their Chief. Wong Wo Shun's head was produced and identified by several military officials. The Kwangsi Governor requests His Excellency to remit \$10,000 reward to Taotais Koong and Kwok of Lim-chow Prefecture for distribution amongst those who took part in the capture of the notorious brigand Chief. Wong Wo Shun had long been an object of terror to the inhabitants and a constant source of uneasiness to the officials in Kwangsi.

JAPAN.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Tokyo, November 20th.

THE VALUE OF ALLIANCE.

It says much for the progress of international relations in late years that such a profound event as has taken place in China can be regarded with equanimity by the political world and that no other feeling is aroused but that of sympathy with the Chinese people. The Anglo-Japanese Alliance has been deprecated on many grounds, but it is this and like factors which are ensuring the peace in China at the present critical time and which enable the Foreign Offices, in Tokyo particularly, to take such a calm view of the situation. Yet the news of the death of the Empress Dowager and Emperor, followed by the most sensational reports of suicide and murder at the Peking Court, had a most disturbing effect in this country, notably on the stock market. The market has of late months been most buoyant, but immediately events at Peking were known there was a collapse and there will be no revival until all danger of economic or other troubles arising in China is past.

THE CHINESE IN TOKYO.

When the report of the Imperial demise was confirmed the Chinese Minister in Tokyo issued instructions to his nationals as to the observation of a period of mourning, which was fixed at a hundred days for official and twenty-seven days for private persons. Further, the officials were forbidden to shave during that period, while the thousands of Chinese students in Tokyo were given six days' leave by order of the Minister for Education for purpose of mourning. After the details of death had been received from the Peking court a solemn religious service was held at the Legation, according to Lama rites, at which only Chinese were present, all dressed with the utmost plainness.

JAPANESE COMMENT.

Papers of all opinions in Tokyo pay tribute to the remarkable qualities of the Empress Dowager and praise the promptness of the faction which has proclaimed a successor to the throne and by avoiding any factional strife on this head stifled incipient rebellion. The Foreign Office took the earliest opportunity of assuring the Press that there was very little likelihood of any trouble arising, owing to the election of an heir to the throne and the unanimity of able statesmen. It is predicted that Yuan Shih-kai and his supporters will throw in their lot with the faction of the Regent and assist in the healthful development of national affairs. One of the Japanese authorities on China, Mr. Inukai, M.P., is of opinion that the death of the Dowager Empress means nothing more than the shifting of the political centre and that there is very little likelihood of any revolutionary rising, which is more generally due to famine causes and not to events such as the present. Count Okuma does not entertain such optimistic views, judging by an interview appearing in the *Hochi*. After referring to the fact that Yuan Shih-kai will not easily resign himself to the loss of military power, the Count indicates that he will be a disturbing factor, and, should the struggle for political power continue, it will have pernicious effects on the internal administration, which in turn will plant the seed of diplomatic complications. In this possible situation Japan's position is the most important. She is the leader of the Orient. The Count asks:—"What was the purpose of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance? It was to chastise those ambitious nations which might seek to rob China of her markets and politically to disturb the peace of the East. The object of the alliance is to keep China intact. The Franco-Japanese and Russo-Japanese agreements had no other end in view. What the Japanese should do in the interest of China is to act in co-operation with Great Britain, which has great influence in China, with the United States, Russia, Germany and France and so study the country's progress and safety. It is improper for Japan to act single-handed, by so doing exciting the suspicions of the Powers, but she must by all means take the lead in advocating the preservation of the peace and security of the Chinese Empire."

FOREIGN FEARS.

While such views are expressed here, it is evident from foreign telegrams that there are fears abroad. The Foreign Office yesterday formally denied that Japan is or has been in negotiation with the United States regarding China and Manchuria. But an official telegram from Berlin is persistent in the report, saying that "Negotiations as to dynastic changes in China and on the Manchurian question are taking place at New York between Mr. Root, Secretary of State, and Mr. Takahira, Japanese Ambassador to the United States." Both Washington and Tokyo have denied that any negotiations are going on: if it was so, it would rather indicate that after all Japan is the real Power in China, much as some would deny her the possession of such influence.

MISSION OF THE PRESS.

The Seiko Kaisha Club, consisting of members of the Tokyo Press, have passed a resolution and forwarded it to the Chinese Legation and Foreign Office expressing profound sympathy with the Imperial Family and nation of China. Such active participation in affairs, high and low, of Japanese newspapermen is one of the characteristics of the people that first strike the Englishman. The British conception of the function of a newspaperman is that his work is confined to observing, reporting and criticising current events, but here one often reads reports that those invited included "Ministers of State, etc., etc., journalists and other prominent persons" or "speeches were delivered by so and so and several journalists." So the journalist occupies a dual role. He does not attend a meeting as an observer who is to report his observations with as much impartiality as possible, but as a member of the meeting, having the additional duty to perform in reporting what takes place, including the part he took in the affair! This idea is carried to extreme lengths. During the recent excitement over the abolition of the parliament a reporter went to an indignation meeting and returned to his office without any report. He thought the meeting was not worth reporting as what the members had said was nonsense! This conception would be a novel surprise for an editor at home, but shikatanai, we are in Japan!

PRECEPT AND PRACTICE.

The recent Imperial rescript urging economy and plain living on the part of the Japanese people, together with Ministerial injunctions to the same effect, have doubtless made the impression they were calculated to make upon the nation, but while the Government is thus anxious to prevent the growth of luxury and waste and develop the national resources, the authorities, high and low, are too apt to limit the application of the Emperor's wise words to the people generally and not to apply them to the guidance of their own official acts. This is shown in the desire for fine buildings and other things not strictly necessary and for which the public purse cannot afford to pay. The Government set a bad example recently in dispatching an official of the Diet to inspect the parliamentary buildings and systems of other countries, the object being the erection, ultimately, of buildings on a grander scale than those now used by the legislators. From two points of view this scheme is a bad one. Not to dwell upon financial reasons, from the point of view of the needs of the nation it is not required. Seemingly the same sort of vanity has dictated the scheme as inspires a man to purchase a motor car who cannot afford it. If there is one thing that truly represents the Japanese nation, it is its Diet building—architecturally simple and internally commodious and comfortable. There is scarcely another foreign building in the capital that does not present glaring faults of architecture and leads one to the conclusion that the Japanese architect will never succeed in presenting a dignified front elevation in foreign construction. All styles of architecture are jumbled together in a most ludicrous way in many of the large buildings of Tokyo, chiefly commercial, suggesting a picture of the sublimely unsympathetic architect buried amid photographs of magnificent Gothic piles, gems of Renaissance architecture, Roman columns and Corinthian decorations. And he industriously produces his building, to the admiration of the native populace, but which will remain a perpetual eyesore to all those who have any conception of style or purity of style as understood in other

countries. Judging by the specimens of native "foreign architecture" in the city and by the numerous buildings that are springing up in the suburbs of Tokyo one would think there was a splendid field here for the foreign architect, but perhaps the poor fellow could not even earn a living. The Japanese can, of course, please themselves as to the style of their buildings, but it would be a national misfortune to commit the construction of a new Diet to any architect who is blind to the defects of representative buildings in Tokyo to-day. And I am now referring only to outside appearances. Unfortunately the tendency to things foreign is not diminished, but the usual result of the mixture of Japanese and foreign ideas in architecture can only be described as barbarous and brings into stronger relief the beauties of the pure native style, destined to languish in isolation, if not decay.

DR. SVEN HEDIN.

As usual, when a man of note visits these shores he is given a welcome of a more or less official character and lionised at receptions. Dr. Sven Hedin, who is to write a book on his travels, is no exception, and at schools, legations and other places in Tokyo he is the hero of the hour. Doubtless the Japanese feel a special interest in his work, the exploration of Tibet. The Geographical Society have marked their appreciation of his services by presenting him with a gold medal, the only one ever struck by the society, with the exception of a silver medal presented to the explorer Baron Morden Skjöld the compatriot of Hedin. It is a coincidence that the only men so honoured by the society should both be Swedish. Dr. Hedin has been busy addressing the students of the universities and has been equally entertaining to folks of older growth. The distinguished explorer will be honoured by the Emperor before he leaves Japan.

SERIOUS RIOT IN FATSHAN.

A riot of a rather serious nature occurred in Fatshan on Nov. 27. It originated through the police arresting a monk who recently declared himself before the public to be a living Buddha and has been preaching his doctrine and selling charms in the streets in Fatshan during the last two or three weeks. He professed to be capable of performing miracles and healing all kinds of diseases. Many ignorant men and women, believing in his power to heal, have even pawned their clothing to purchase his charms. The local Press have published several articles pointing out to the public the preposterous character of the monk's professions, and exhorted the people not to waste their money in purchasing his charms nor to believe in the monk's healing power. But the ignorant class did not heed the good advice. Finally an officer of No 1 Police Station in Fatshan who could not any longer tolerate this robbing the poor people of their hard-earned wages, or the impudence of the monk in raising the price of the charms on account of the daily increase of demand for them caused the monk to be arrested and sent him over to the Head Police Station in Canton to be tried and punished. Shortly after the arrest was made a mob of over 1,000 men and women went to No 1 Police Station and demanded the monk's release. The police refused and were pelted with stones by the monk's supporters. Several arrests were made. This incensed the people and a riot ensued in the course of which the station and all the furniture were wrecked and the Chief Police Station in Fatshan was saved only in the nick of time by the arrivals of reinforcements under the command of the Kwang Chow General Woo Ling Sheun.

IMPERIAL EDICTS.

In response to a memorial presented by the Board of Rites, an Imperial Edict was issued on the 28th inst. notifying that the reign title will be *Sun Tung* from the commencement of the next Chinese year.

The official Geomancer has selected the 9th day of the 11th moon (December 2nd) as a lucky day for the accession, which will take place at noon.

An Edict announces the lying in state of the late Empress Dowager at Wong Kik palace and gives directions regarding memorial services.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF CHINA.

MEETING AT SHANGHAI.

A special meeting of members of the American Association of China was held at No. 1 Yuen-mingyuen Road Shanghai on November 24th. Mr. Murray Warner presided and there were over eighty members present.

At the outset the question was raised as to whether the representatives of the Press should be excluded. A vote was taken on a motion to exclude the reporters. The motion was rejected, amidst loud applause, by an overwhelming majority.

Dr. GILBERT REID, as chairman of the Sub-Committee appointed to obtain the views of Americans in China as well as those of members of the Association in Shanghai, moved the adoption of four resolutions which had been circulated and which, he said, were a summary of the wishes expressed. Dr. Reid suggested certain alterations in the resolutions as they then read as follows:—

Resolution No. 1.—Resolved that the American Association of China, convened at special meeting, does hereby express thanks and appreciation for the interest manifested by the Department of State and by Congress in considering and forwarding suitable legislation for the United States Court for China; and does petition them to continue their efforts until suitable legislation is enacted.

Resolution No. 2.—Whereas the right of Trial by Jury is one granted to American citizens under the Constitution of the United States; and

Whereas of such Americans in China as have made known their wishes, in response to a printed circular, nearly eighty per cent. have expressed preference for a jury trial, or something similar thereto as other than a trial by one man;

Therefore, be it resolved that we ask that such provision be made in future legislation as will secure to Americans, in both civil and criminal cases, the option of being tried with or without a jury of, five, or, should it be deemed preferable, by a similar number called Assessors, who shall, however, be the sole judges of the facts in each case.

Resolution No. 3.—Whereas, the power vested in a Grand Jury for the Courts of the United States should be vested, for the just treatment of Americans in China, in some United States Officer:

Therefore, be it resolved that we request that the Magistrate of the Consular Court in each Consular District, in conducting a private investigation of crime, shall have power to subpoena witnesses, administer oaths, and that said officer, with the District Attorney, shall examine the witnesses and determine whether a *prima facie* case of guilt has been established upon the evidence, before a Bill of Information can be filed by the District Attorney.

Resolution No. 4.—Resolved that it is the opinion of the American Association of China that the Consul-General of the United States at Shanghai should be relieved of all judicial duties, and that the Vice-Consul-General or some other officer of this Consulate-General should perform the judicial duties now devolving upon the Consul-General under the Law.

Mr. J. N. JAMESON seconded.

Dr. REID explained that the resolutions had been drawn up with a view to meeting the wishes of all. With regard to Resolution No. 1 they all appreciated what had been done by the Secretary of the State Department. Mr. Bacon and Mr. Wilson, who were associated with him had undertaken to have a proper bill introduced into Congress. Mr. Edwin Denby also took a great interest in China and Senator Lodge had helped on legislation for Americans in China and the formation of the Court which had been already established. As regarded Resolution No. 2 this was a proposition of accommodation and mutual magnanimity. He thought the majority preferred the introduction of a modification of the jury system in the Court in China; while the minority had a preference for Assessors. Both of these wishes had been included in order that by mutual accommodation they could secure a

resolution which could be adopted by all. Dr. Reid then went into the merits of the jury system and also of the sitting of Assessors with the Judge. He said the jury system was a part of their national life, it was inherent in the races to which they belonged as Anglo-Saxons or Teutons. Dr. Reid quoted from Blackstone on trial by jury and referred to the Constitution of the United States and separate States, reading extracts from the Constitution of the United States and then from an article on jury trial published in the "North American Review." Referring to the question of Assessors the speaker dealt with the Memorial sent to the President last year by the Association and to the Bills already drawn up dealing with the matter. There was a good deal to be said both for and against having Assessors and Dr. Reid related the views of those who supported a system of Assessors and the reasons why others were against it. He laid great emphasis on the word "option" by an accused person of being tried without a jury or Assessors. The resolution left it as an option for the citizens of the United States to say whether they should have a trial by a jury or not. There was nothing in the constitution of the United States to prevent a man being tried by a jury.

It was not a question whether the Judge here wanted a jury or not, but it was a question for the American citizens to say, if they were accused, whether they would be tried with a jury, or by the Judge with Assessors. With regard to the third resolution the question was considered by a sub-Committee of Foreign Affairs in the House of Representatives. Both Mr. Denby and Mr. Fessenden seemed to think that something should be done, not to take away the power of the District Attorney in securing this preliminary evidence, but to check it, so it was recommended that there should be some other officer of the Consulate at Shanghai or any other part, who should have this power to subpoena witnesses, administer oaths and he and the District Attorney decide whether a *prima facie* case of guilt had been established, before a Bill of Information could be filed by the District Attorney. This was simply to preserve the rights of every American citizen in these investigations made in secret. Resolution No. 4 expressed a view which was not the view which was taken by the Executive Committee last year. An Assistant Judge had not been appointed and might not be appointed. The Consular Court should be distinct from the Superior Court so that appeals might be made from the lower Court to the higher court, but not having the same officers sitting in both Courts. They were all agreed that the Consul-General should be relieved of his judicial duties, and they memorialized that some other officer in the Consulate-General, preferably a Vice-Consul, should act as a Magistrate in this preliminary or Police Court. He was personally in favour of the maintenance of the Consular Court. In conclusion Dr. Reid appealed to the meeting for unanimity of action and said that if they could only agree on these matters and have a unanimous vote they would help to carry through the legislation they sought in Washington.

Mr. G. E. TUCKER moved that the words "or, should it be deemed preferable, by a similar number called Assessors," be deleted, also the word "however," from paragraph three of Resolution No. 2.—Dr. W. H. JEFFREYS seconded.

Mr. TUCKER then explained his reasons for proposing the amendment.

Dr. F. L. HAWKS POTT raised a question of privilege and asked that Mr. J. F. Seaman be allowed to bring forward his substitute motion, of which notice had been given, at this stage.

It was decided to take Mr. Seaman's substitute motion which he proposed as follows:—

Whereas, the Association in November of last year addressed to the President and Congress of the United States a Memorial "on the need of a more complete body of Laws for Americans in China, and an American Federal Building in Shanghai," and supported the Memorial by a Memorandum upon the needs of the Judiciary and Consular service in China; and Whereas, no action thereon was taken at the last Session of Congress, and consequently the situation remains unchanged, to the detriment of the efficiency of the public service and the interests

of Americans resident in China: Resolved (1) That this Association transmit a further Memorial to the President and Congress of the United States, reiterating the views previously expressed, and emphasizing the necessity for the adoption and promulgation of a Code of Laws for the guidance of the United States Court for China, and the provision by appropriation of funds for the purchase of land for the erection of buildings for Governmental purposes at Shanghai. (2) That, with a view to fully acquainting the authorities at Washington with the situation the issue of the illustrated Journal of the Association, Volume II, Number 5, or so much thereof as is cognate to the subject, be represented, and that a copy thereof, together with a copy of these Resolutions and of the Memorial referred to in Resolution I. be transmitted to the President, to the Secretaries of each Department and to every member of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

Dr. HAWKS POTT seconded.

These and other amendments were rejected and the resolutions, as amended by Mr. Tucker, were adopted.

THE REVOLUTIONARY OUTBREAK AT ANKING.

REVOLUTIONARIES BEHEADED AT CHANGSHA.

The revolutionary outbreak recently reported to have broken out at Anking near Nanking was speedily quelled by the promptitude of the native authorities. Two Chinese gunboats were quickly near the scene of the disturbance and from the river shelled the east fort where five hundred revolutionaries were said to be stationed. These were dispersed, with a few casualties, and order is now restored.

H. M. S. *Flora* and *Britomart* proceeded quickly to the scene and stood by to protect the lives of foreigners in the neighbourhood.

H. B. M.'s Consul at Kinkiang wired to Hankow on the 22nd inst "Telegraph to Anking interrupted. H. M. S. *Flora* reports that on the 19th 2,000 Anhui troops revolted and tried to seize the city. Four Chinese cruisers shelled them out of the East Fort but they still invest the north of the city. The Captain of H.M.S. *Flora* is trying to get the missionaries, who are safe, sent on board his ship."

At Changsha 100 rebels, belonging to the "Small Knife" society were captured and summarily beheaded.

The Viceroy secured the assistance of the Hupeh troops in the area of the military manoeuvres and three battalions of the Nanking division were also dispatched to the scene.

A Shim, Taotai surnamed Chan, had imported a large number of military uniforms into Anking, with the object of capturing the city during the Autumn Manoeuvres. The design, however, having been betrayed to the authorities, he was arrested in a lodging house, together with two accomplices. The arrested men have disclosed the names of many more conspirators.

THE KING OF SIAM'S EVENTFUL REIGN.

The foundation stone of the New Throne Hall, Bangkok, was laid by His Majesty, the King of Siam, on the 11th instant, in connection with the record reign celebrations in Siam.

In reply to an address presented by the Crown Prince, His Majesty said that the changes which have taken place during the last forty years in Siam are such as even five hundred years of our previous national existence could not have accompanied. It makes us especially happy to think that it is we who have occupied the throne throughout these forty eventful years, and have enabled our beloved country to be guided in the path of administrative improvement and national prosperity along the line of a single and continuous policy, which has not swerved or retrogressed nor had its steady course been checked or turned aside by any circumstance, down to the present day, with the result, as testified by you all, that our country and nation have attained the state of advancement and prosperity which is so evident. These results are, indeed, to us a source of deep gratification.

S.S. "FATSHAN" AFFAIR.

INQUIRY AT THE BRITISH CONSULATE.

Our Canton correspondent writes:—

An enquiry was held on the *Fatshan* on the 30th ult. into the death of the Chinese passenger who, it was alleged, had died as the result of violence at the hands of a Portuguese watchman named C. Noronha. Besides the British and Chinese Authorities, three Doctors, one English, one Chinese and one Japanese were present. The post-mortem examination, it is stated, revealed no marks of violence and the doctors were agreed that the man was in a very poor state of health and was dying and that death was not due to violence.

The Chinese undertakers called in by the Nam-hoi Magistrate examined the body of the deceased and have handed in a report which states that they found ten marks of violence on the body of the deceased and declared that death was due to violence. It is said that in the report, the undertakers actually stated that certain marks on the body of the deceased were caused by kicks from a foot. It is marvellous how the Chinese undertakers by examining the body could state positively that certain marks were caused by kicks from a foot.

CROWN COURT, HONG KONG.

Mr. H. H. Fox, H. B. M. Consul-General, opened an inquiry on Tuesday last. Mr. J. D. da Costa de Moraes, Portuguese Consul-General, Mr. Sit Wing Min, the Viceroy's Foreign Deputy and the Nam-hoi Magistrate were present. The manager of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, owners of the s.s. *Fatshan*, was also present watching the case on behalf of the firm.

The precise nature of the charge the Consul was required to investigate was that a Chinese passenger had been kicked to death on the s.s. *Fatshan* on the night of November 29th. C. de Noronha surrendered himself as being the person referred to in the charge and pleaded not guilty.

Evidence for the prosecution was called:—

The first witness was Tam Sheung Po who deposed as follows:—I am an insurance broker in Hongkong and was passenger of the s.s. *Fatshan* on the night of the 29th ultimo. I heard a great noise amongst the Chinese deck passengers, and went down to the lower deck to see what was the matter. I saw a man rolling about on the floor of the deck in a dying state. I did not hear the man speak. A lot of passengers were gathered around the man and there was great confusion. I tried to quiet them saying that the matter could be reported to the police on arrival in Canton. The man was then dead. I could not get near, but heard people say the man was dead. I did not see the Portuguese watchman. There was too much confusion to see clearly.

Yeong Wo Kai was the next witness called and he made the following statement:—I live in Cho Min Sai Pin Tan in *Fatshan*. I am 37 years of age. I am a rice merchant and was one of the deck passengers by the s.s. *Fatshan*. My shop name is Hang Tai. I was sitting on the floor of the deck close to the deceased doing nothing. I saw some Chinese collecting passage money. I did not notice the Portuguese watchman at that time. They omitted to collect passage money from the deceased. Afterwards I saw a Portuguese watchman go up to the deceased and call out "Show your ticket." The deceased was then lying down covered with a red blanket. I could not see distinctly which way the deceased was lying. When the watchman cried out "Collect ticket" he kicked the deceased to wake him up and the deceased sat up and rubbed his eyes. The watchman pushed deceased twice when asking for his ticket. I heard the deceased say "I have no ticket; you have not collected my passage money. How can I have a ticket?" The watchman again asked the deceased for passage money and at the same time struck deceased with his hand. Deceased cried out "Pain." Deceased then paid the watchman 60 cents from his pocket. I did not see clearly the exact amount paid, but I think it must have been 60 cents. After the watchman collected the money, he gave the deceased a hard kick with his foot and went away. When the deceased received the last kick he made an exclamation of pain. Deceased then

fell back on the deck, but I am unable to say how he fell. Deceased was rolling about crying in a loud voice for some time and then became quiet. The man who sat next to me was asleep; he got up and looked at the deceased. Many other passengers also went up and looked at the deceased. I also got up and went to look at the deceased who was dead. I knew he was dead because somebody pushed deceased and he did not move. I did not notice that any of the officers on board went to the deceased. Some passengers went up to call the officers. I did not see the watchman afterwards. When I went on board the *Fatshan* the deceased was already there. The affair happened at about 11.30 p.m. The deceased was an opium smoker. He was smoking a cigarette and was sitting up when I came on board the steamer. The watchman asked deceased for his ticket; a Chinese sailor asked me for mine. They were not together. The deceased was lying alongside the hatch when the tickets were collected. The distance between deceased and myself was about six feet. The Companion ladder was between me and the deceased. I did not notice who was with the watchman until he kicked the deceased.

Cheong Lau Ki was then called and said; I reside in the Yu Tai shop in Tai Shan Kai, Canton. I was a passenger on the s.s. *Fatshan* on the 29th ultimo. My age is 29. I was a deck passenger. I was lying down and was asked by somebody for my ticket. I did not see the person who asked for my ticket, but handed him my ticket. Shortly after I heard a cry "Ah Yeh" and I got up and saw a foreigner kick the deceased and walk away. I was sitting on mats away from the deceased. I saw the deceased sitting when the watchman kicked him. The deceased immediately fell down. I cannot say whether the accused is the foreigner whom I saw kicking the deceased. Deceased cried for three-quarters of an hour and died. I got up and went to the deceased, took hold of his hands and pulled them several times. As he did not move I knew he was dead. There was great confusion. I told the people not to make a row. After a long while some Europeans came down to look at deceased.

The hearings was adjourned to 2.30. p.m.

There was a large crowd of Chinese reporters, members of the Red Cross Society and Self-Government Association at the Consulate listening to the trial of the case.

The inquiry was resumed on Tuesday afternoon. Two witnesses were examined—a Chinese dentist of Hongkong named Fung Cheuk Shan, and a member of the Chinese Ambulance Society, named Hui Ching Po.

The dentist was a passenger on the *Fatshan* and all he knew of the matter was by hearsay.

Hui Ching Po deposed to having examined the body of the deceased and having found several marks of violence.

Questioned by H. B. M. Consul-General as to his qualification for giving evidence as to the nature of the alleged injuries, witness said that he had been employed as an apprentice in a chemist's shop in *Fatshan* for one year and afterwards joined the Canton Ambulance Society.

His evidence was rejected as also was that of the dentist.

The Consul-General said no evidence would be accepted except from qualified Chinese practitioners with proper diplomas.

The Consul-General, addressing the Chinese reporters who were in the Court, said: I have been shown a copy of the Chinese newspaper *Kwok See Po* issued yesterday morning in which the depositions of the Chinese witnesses examined yesterday are printed almost word for word in an article entitled "The Murder of a Chinese passenger by a foreigner on the *Fatshan*." This article, published before the enquiry had taken place, had the effect not only of prejudicing public opinion against the accused, but of rendering the evidence of the witnesses for the prosecution untrustworthy and of little value. Any one of the 600 passengers on the *Fatshan* having read this article might have come forward and corroborated in detail the evidence of these witnesses. To publish the depositions of witnesses while a judicial enquiry or trial is pending is entirely contrary to Western ideas, and it will be my duty to bring the conduct of the editor of the *Kwok See Po* to the notice of the

Viceroy with the request that he will take such steps as he may deem advisable to punish the editor of this paper for this unwarranted publication.

Dr. Davenport, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (London), who said he had been 5 years and 11 months in Canton, gave evidence. He said:—I found no evidence of any broken bones or any other external sign of injury. There was no discharge from the nose or from the ear, the pupils were moderately contracted and equal. The spleen was apparently large. My conclusion is from review of these facts that the deceased had been suffering from fever and that he was probably seriously ill when he went on board the steamer at Hongkong. At about 1.30, at the request of the Chinese authorities I again went on board the *Fatshan* and examined the body. I came to the same conclusion and I was more convinced. The second examination confirmed the first. There were some marks on the forehead of a brown colour such as frequently are seen on the Chinese, caused by counter irritants such as the burns, frequently applied by Chinese in cases of fever and headache. When I saw the body it was in the condition of *rigor-mortis*. The brown marks on the forehead were not recent marks; by recent I mean a few hours old. There were no external marks of violence at all. But on the back, on the left side of the scrotum, there was a post-mortem red stain discolouration. That it was not the mark of an injury was proved by the fact that there was no discoloration on those parts of the body which were in contact with any other object. The deceased was not well nourished. His body was pale, the pupils were moderately contracted. I could not say positively that he was an opium smoker. I can give no accurate opinion as to the exact time the man died. His body was still warm when I saw it, but he might have been dead even as much as 20 hours. I examined the body at about 10.30. a.m.

Captain C. V. Lloyd said: I am master of the *Fatshan*. I was on the upper deck at about quarter to 12, when it was reported to me that a Chinese passenger had died on the lower deck. About a quarter of an hour afterwards, I was informed that the Chinese passengers were creating a disturbance. I went down to the lower deck, and saw a body lying on the deck with many passengers standing round and talking loudly. I enquired what the trouble was and was told that this man had been assaulted by the watchman during the collection of tickets. I then asked for witnesses of the fact and after some delay a boy about 15 years old or thereabouts was brought forward. He said that he saw the watchman strike a back-handed blow on the man's cheek. There was no other evidence given. Nothing was said of kicks or blows. The boy was surrounded by men behind him who were prompting him as to what he would say. At that time no one else gave any evidence. I told them that the charge was absurd and after sometime they dispersed and I went on deck again. About one hour afterwards I went down to see if there was any more trouble, and heard from the Compradore that the passengers were talking of writing a joint letter. I sent for the ring leader and then for the first time I heard of kicks and blows. After some time I asked him what he wanted done, and he said he wanted a fair investigation when he arrived at Canton. This I agreed to at once and the disturbance ceased. The Captain produced the regulations which were always hung up on board the steamer, and referred the Court to rule No. 19 which states that if any of the officers or crew ill-treat any native passengers they will be dismissed from the service. I have been captain in these steamers, witness added, for 23 years. It has often happened that passengers have died on board the steamers when coming up to Canton, the reason being that very often Chinese who are sick in Hongkong do everything they can to get on board the steamer to come up to Canton. Death on board is reported to the Consul when the vessel arrives at Canton. If the man has no friends the Chinese Hospital takes charge of the body.

J. B. Noland, chief officer, sworn, said:—I went down to the lower deck at about 20 minutes to 11, with the purser, two watchmen and sailors to collect tickets. I got to the place where deceased lay about 10 or 15 minutes past 11 o'clock. The man was lying down covered with a blanket. One of the watchmen took up the

CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

November 26th.

POLITICAL DISCUSSION FORBIDDEN.

H. E. Viceroy Chang has notified the Civil and Military officials of all ranks in the Kwangtung Province that they must not discuss the present position of Government affairs; they are to attend strictly to their duties and carry out the State mourning in accordance with the law. All officials are requested to remain at their respective Bureaux and no leave of absence will be granted.

ENCOURAGING NATIVE "INDUSTRIES."

In a dispatch sent to the Viceroy by the Board of Agriculture, Labour, and Commerce at Peking it is stated that the Chamber of Commerce in the Kiang-su Province has informed the Board that the cotton cloth manufactured in the above province is strong, flexible and white and its quality is far superior to that manufactured in Bombay. Hitherto its consumption has been confined to several northern and eastern provinces, but of late years foreign cloth has found its way into those markets and has been ousting the native cloth trade. Recently the Board has received several Imperial Edicts commanding them to encourage native manufactures. The Board requests the Viceroy to give instructions to all Military and Police Departments and the Directors of Schools and Colleges in the Province of Kwangtung to purchase the native cloth manufactured in Kiang-su for the use of the military, police and students. The Viceroy has issued notice to that effect.

BLACKMAIL.

The International Banking Corporation here has again received a letter demanding \$1,000,000 blackmail to be paid within five days on board a certain Shek Loong junk.

November 27th.

CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY.

The total sum of money due on the second instalment of the shares of the Canton-Hankow Railway Company amount to over \$13,200,000 out of which about \$1,300,000, is reported to have been collected by the Company up to the 30th day of the 10th moon (23rd instant), and from this amount the sum of \$200,000 was paid into the Company in drafts or promissory notes to be collected on the date.

THE FATSHAN LINE.

It is reported that recently complaints have been made by many passengers of the Fatshan Railway of articles missing from the passengers' luggage cars.

Owing to the recent increase of railway fares many steam launches have been placed on the Canton-Fatshan run, and, if stern measures are not taken to put a check to the pilfering which is causing great annoyance to travellers, the bulk of the passenger trade will fall into the hands of the steam launch owners.

OBJECTION TO A KEROSINE DEPOT.

A British firm purchased a piece of land in Samshui for the purpose of building a kerosine depot. The gentry there objected to a kerosine depot and applied to the Sam-shui Magistrate to issue an injunction restraining the foreign firm from erecting the depot on the ground that kerosine is "dangerous goods." The Magistrate reported the matter to the Viceroy who directed the Provincial Treasurer to investigate and settle the question.

THE ENTHRONEMENT OF THE NEW SOVEREIGN.

H. E. the Viceroy has received cable instructions from Peking to notify the officials and the people of the Kwangtung Province that the enthronement of the young Emperor will take place on the 1st day of the 1st moon next year and that the Grand Council has decided to adopt the two characters Shuen Tung (宣統) as the title of the reign of the new Emperor. As it is customary in many lines of trade to print the title of the reigning Emperor on the articles manufactured, the cablegram expressly instructs His Excellency to issue proclamations to inform the public that all articles and goods which are now being manufactured for the forthcoming year must bear the title of the new Emperor.

NEW COINS.

The Viceroy is also in receipt of telegraphic instructions from the Board of Revenue at

blanket. I saw the accused shake a man by the shoulder. He sat up in a dazed manner and when his ticket was demanded he, after some delay, tendered 50 cents and it was handed to me. I looked at the man and he appeared to me to be dazed with opium. I remarked this as I passed on. We finished collecting tickets about 25 minutes past 11 p.m. There was no disturbance or noise of any kind while I was on deck. There were 666 passengers on the lower deck. The lower deck is fairly well lit with electric light. If a passenger is asleep he is usually shaken up by his shoulders. I have never seen any member of the crew kick a passenger to wake him up. It is usually opium smokers who have to be awakened by shaking. With 600 passengers on the lower deck it would be impossible to walk across the deck without touching some of them. The accused went round with me to collect the tickets. We sometimes have to shake a man more than once.

Chan Kim Cho, Compradore was called and said:—I went down with the captain after some passengers had told me that a man had been kicked to death. It was about 12.30 a.m. I do not know any of the men who spoke to me on the lower deck.

THE DECISION.

At the conclusion of the enquiry the Consul-General said:—The proceedings at this preliminary enquiry are not altogether regular, for two reasons:—In the first place no definite charge has been framed against the watchman, Noronha, of having caused the death of this passenger. The Viceroy's letter simply states that a Chinese passenger on the *Fatshan* has been murdered by a foreigner; no further details are given. However, as I learnt from other sources that the watchman Noronha was accused of having done this thing, and as he voluntarily came to this Consulate-General and offered himself for investigation into the truth of the allegations against him, I decided to hold the enquiry. In the second place, Noronha is a Portuguese subject and as such, if a serious charge of this nature is preferred against him, he should be tried by his own Consul. But I decided, in consultation with my Portuguese colleague, M. de Moraes, that, in view of the fact that the alleged criminal offence had been committed on board a British steamer by a person on that steamer's articles, and in view of the popular excitement prevailing in regard to this case, it would be expedient that I should first hold a preliminary inquiry into the circumstances attending the death of this passenger on the *Fatshan*. This I have done in as public and thorough a manner as possible. A deputy from the Viceroy has been present at the hearing, taking notes and cross-examining the witnesses. The public, including members of the Chinese press, have been allowed to be present and the Portuguese Consul-General has occupied a seat in Court. I have come to the conclusion, after carefully considering all the evidence that has been brought forward yesterday and to-day, that there is not sufficient evidence to justify me in handing over the accused to his Consul on a charge of having caused the death of this passenger. Of the 600 odd passengers on the *Fatshan* that night only two came forward to testify that they had seen the accused assault the deceased, and their evidence, for reasons which I have mentioned before, I am bound to regard with grave suspicion. On the other hand Dr. Davenport's evidence, given in the clearest and most explicit manner, goes to show that the deceased died a natural death. Under these circumstances the accused, as far as the Court is concerned, is discharged. It is open to the Chinese Authorities, should they consider the result of this enquiry unsatisfactory, to charge the accused in the Portuguese Consular Court, where, I am sure, all charges made against him will receive an impartial and fair hearing. I will ask Mr. Greaves, Messrs. Butterfield and Swire's Agent, to hold himself responsible for Noronha's appearance when called upon.

Mr. Greaves gave the necessary assurance.

CHINESE COMMENTS ON THE CASE.

The local Press is still publishing hostile articles concerning the matter, and a petition has been a sent to the Viceroy praying that the body of the deceased may be exhumed and a fresh post-mortem examination held by three doctors, viz.

the Japanese Doctor of the Reform Army, one English Doctor, and one Doctor of the Canton Ambulance Society. It is reported that the Chinese insist that another trial should be held, this time at the Portuguese Consular Court. A dispatch to that effect is said to have been sent by the Viceroy to the Portuguese Consul-General. A boycott of the steamer is also on the programme at the instigation of the Self-Government Association.

The 72 Guild Press comments on the decision of the Court as follows:—

"In reviewing the case in which the deceased was wounded by a kick he received near the heart from the foot of the accused, and also a blow given with the hand, both of which were causes of the man's death, it should be said that in both instances there were marks of bruises and there was the clear evidence of numerous persons proving it beyond doubt. Therefore it was impossible for the accused to be excused or held blameless. In reviewing the evidence given by the fellow passengers of the accused, one of them not only said that the accused did not beat the man to death but that he did not beat anybody at all. The passenger died because he was ill when he went on board of the steamer and he died a natural death. They actually hushed up a case of such grave importance. This can only be described as arbitrary, and treating the Chinese people with contempt. The evidence was false and trumped up and there were many contradictions. For instance the chief officer said that the watchman pushed the man on the shoulder; the Indian watchman said the same thing, but the sailor said the watchman only asked the deceased to get up, and called him twice, when he got up and that no watchman pushed the deceased by the shoulder. Although this is not a very important point in the case, it shows discrepancies in the evidence and we cannot blame the British Consul for saying that the evidence was not clear. The British Consul further said that there was no evidence to show that the accused committed a crime. It is only on account of racial distinction that the matter was hushed up and the Consul had no time to think of public justice. It is really a very great pity."

EXCITEMENT AT CANTON.

There is great excitement in the City (writes our Canton correspondent) over the decision given by the British Consular Court of inquiry re the s.s. *Fatshan* incident. A boycott of the Steamboat Company's entire fleet seems to be threatening.

I have no doubt the excitement would soon fizzle out if the local authorities were to issue a proclamation explaining clearly to the public the facts of the inquiry or if the proceedings at the inquiry and the evidence of both foreign and Chinese witnesses were translated and published in the leading local papers.

The translation of a circular which I give below, issued by the Self-Government Association, is apparently the first step towards a boycott movement:—

"We beg respectfully to inform the public that on the night of the 6th day of this moon (29th Nov.) a Chinaman was kicked to death by a foreigner on board the s.s. *Fatshan*. The following patriotic and eminent persons viz. Yeong Wo Kai, Cheong Lau Ki, Tung Chenk and Tam Shew Po were strangers to the deceased yet they possessed such patriotic and honourable feelings as to come forward as witnesses to give evidence in the case and petitioned the Authorities to obtain redress on behalf of the deceased. This really shows the sincerity of their feelings and ardent love of their country and their brethren.

"From inquiries made we learn that all these patriots are business men. For several days they have wasted their precious time and disregarded their toilsome labour. Those who are our brothers must really respect them. We have decided to invite these patriots to come to the Association on the 10th day of this moon (3rd instant) for the purpose of taking their photographs, which we will carefully preserve as a remembrance. We therefore invite all our brothers to attend at the Association on that day to pay their respects to them."

Peking requesting him to instruct the Director of the Provincial Mint to cease minting operations as stamps for new coins bearing the title of the new Emperor are being made and will be sent to the Canton Mints as soon as they are ready.

DUTY ON NATIVE OPIUM.

The Director of the Liang Kwong Bureau of native opium has reported to the Viceroy that the total amount of duty collected on native opium during 12 months i.e. from the 1st day of the 10th moon of the 32nd year of Kwong Sui to the 30th day of the 10th moon of the 33rd year of Kwong Sui was 683,793 taels and that out of this sum 306,250 taels were collected from the Kwangtung Province.

OPIUM AFFAIRS.

The Superintendent of Police has notified the public that, owing to the death of Emperor Kwang Sui, the new wooden opium smoking licenses will not be issued for some time yet as it is necessary to alter the date of expiration to the 30th day of the 5th moon of Emperor Shuen Tung.

Sometime ago a proclamation was issued by the Viceroy restricting the sale of opium smoking requisites. This was heeded for some time, but of late these articles have again been freely exposed for sale in many shops both in Ho Pak and Ho Nam. His Excellency has issued a second proclamation ordering the confiscation of the goods exposed and seizure of the shop.

EX-VICEROY SHUM.

It is rumoured here in official circles that news has come through private channels that ex-Viceroy Shum has gone to Peking and that he will no doubt be placed in some high and responsible position. It is also said that Shum was summoned to proceed to Peking by Imperial order.

November 29th.

NEW WEEKLY PAPER.

A paper called the *Canton Weekly News* has made its appearance edited by Mr. H. W. Ray who was formerly assistant teacher of the Diocesan School and Orphanage in Hongkong. I understand, if sufficient support is forthcoming, the issue will be a daily one from the 1st day of January 1909.

STATE MOURNING—FOREIGN OFFICIALS OFFERING CONDOLENCE.

On the 27th instant Mr. Paul H. King, Chief Commissioner of Customs, Messrs. J. S. M. Drummond and J. H. May, Deputy Commissioners of Customs and Mr. A. B. Hyland, Imperial Chinese District Postal Commissioner called on His Excellency Viceroy Chang to offer their condolence towards the late Emperor and Empress Dowager of China.

November 30th.

MORE KIDNAPPING.

Robbers have kidnapped Messrs. Lo Aok Wai and Lo Hok Lim, members of the wealthy Lo family in the district of Shun Tak, during their visit to the town of Yungki in the above district. Mr. Lo Wai Tung, uncle of the victims, is assistant secretary to Viceroy Tuan Fang of Liang Kiang. Lo reported the matter to Viceroy Tuan Fang and His Excellency has cabled to Viceroy Chang requesting that strict orders be given to the Shun Tak Magistrate to obtain the release of the captives as soon as possible and also to arrest the brigands and have them severely punished.

SEQUEL TO THE FATSHAN RIOT.

The following is a translation of a proclamation issued by the Superintendent of Police in Fatsan on account of the riot:—"This proclamation is issued to inform the public that about three weeks ago a notorious monk came to Fatsan and caused all kinds of strange rumours to be spread over the town. As it is the duty of the police to put a stop to this sort of things and prevent any disturbance in the place we had the monk arrested and sent him over to the Chief Superintendent of Police in Canton where he will be tried and punished for disturbing the public peace. The inhabitants of the town should thank us for removing a person who was doing injury to the general public, but unfortunately some bad characters seized this opportunity to incite the people to riot and thus brought misfortune on the other good citizens. The rascals led a large number of people to No. 1 Police Station and without any reason whatever

made a great disturbance in front of the station and afterwards they had the audacity to wreck the Police Station and the property on the premises. Conduct of this nature is in defiance of the law and cannot be tolerated. The Viceroy, on receipt of the report that a riot was going on here, authorized the police to shoot on the rioters, but we refrained on account of the ignorance of the people. We only arrested a couple of the ringleaders. We hereby warn the people against a repetition of this offence which will be treated as a revolt and we will direct the soldiers to fire on the mob. We command you to obey this proclamation &c."

December 3rd

REGULATIONS PROHIBITING THE SMOKING OF CIGARETTES.

H. E. the Viceroy has received a long dispatch from the Board of Education in Peking requesting him to issue a proclamation and also to give instructions to the Literary Chancellor of the Kwangtung Province to notify all the schools and colleges in the Province that the Board of Education has framed the following regulations forbidding scholars, students and persons under 16 years of age to smoke cigarettes:—

1. All persons under 16 years of age are prohibited from smoking cigarettes of any description.
2. All hawkers, stalls, shops and firms are hereby forbidden to sell cigarettes to any person under 16 years of age.
3. All scholars of preparatory schools are prohibited from smoking cigarettes of any description.
4. All students of colleges are prohibited from smoking, smoke being detrimental to brain work and the health of all students who are about to complete their high-class education must be protected.
5. In the event of any person being discovered infringing these regulations their cigarettes and smoking requisites will be confiscated and the matter will be reported to their parents or relations who will be requested to restrain them from smoking. Scholars or students discovered smoking cigarettes will be reported to the headmasters of the schools and professors of colleges so that they may be restrained from smoking. Any person or shop discovered selling cigarettes to persons under 16 years of age or to scholars and students will be liable to punishment in accordance with clause No. 88 of the Police regulations i.e. for infringing the rules of health which is punishable by a monetary fine.

THE ACCESSION.

All the Foreign Consuls, the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioners of Customs and the Imperial Chinese District Postal Commissioner called at the Man Shan Koong (Emperor's Temple) at noon yesterday to offer their congratulations upon the occasion of the accession to the Throne of the New Emperor, Shuen Tung.

OFFICIALS AT FISTICUFFS.

Recently Woo Ling Sheun, General of the Kwong Chow Army, who during a tour of inspection of the soldiers who were placed as extra guards at the City gates and arsenals on account of rumours of a rising following the death of the Emperor and Empress Dowager, discovered that all the windows of the guard house at the Wing Chai Powder Magazine were broken and also that there was neither grass nor corn in the stables to feed the military horses, sent for the Deputy in charge of the magazine and ordered him to have the windows repaired and to provide forage for the horses. The Deputy who, by the way, was a Manchu, replied in a very insolent manner that it was not his duty to attend to such matters and told the General to attend to them himself. A quarrel ensued and ended in a fight between the General and the Deputy in which the latter got the worst of it. Two days afterwards the Deputy sent in his resignation and reported to the Viceroy that General Woo had struck him and that the serious injuries caused by the blows he received at the hands of the General had compelled him to resign his position. He requested the Viceroy to investigate the case and to punish the General for taking the law in his own hands. His Excellency instructed the Provincial Judge to investigate the matter and nothing further was heard of the affair.

It appears that the Deputy has two sons, who are both teachers in Government colleges. A few days ago they sent a joint petition to the Viceroy saying that the Kwong-chow General without any reason or provocation struck their father who is a man 60 years of age; that the father is now vomiting blood through the violence of the blows received; and praying that General Woo be tried and punished for assaulting the old man. They could not bear seeing their father suffering from the pain caused by the blows inflicted, and unless they obtained redress, they would die of grief.

PUNISHMENT FOR HEAD SHAVING

Hundreds of people at Canton who had their heads shaved on the 2nd instant (the day of the enthronement of the new Emperor) were arrested by the police and fines varying from 50 cents to \$20 were imposed on the delinquents. Many barbers who were caught in the act of shaving their clients on that day were sentenced to 100 days' imprisonment. It is curious to note that amongst those arrested for infringing the State mourning regulation there were several policemen and a military officer. The policemen were all dismissed from the service and sentenced to 100 days' imprisonment with hard labour.

The Military officer who is a Manchu named Chuen Pan was only fined \$20 at the Police Station which was promptly paid, and he thought, that ended the matter, but he was hooted next day when attending the drill of the Manchu soldiers. This drew the attention of the Commander who on investigation learnt that Lieutenant Chuen Pan had shaved his head the previous day. The Commander reported the matter to the Tartar General who cancelled the Lieutenant's commission and sentenced him to one year's imprisonment with dismissal from the service.

The barber's trade is the one most affected during the State mourning period. The estimated loss to the 1,400 barber shops registered in the Barber Guild is about \$1,000,000, for the hundred days; as there are on an average eight barbers in each shop this means 11,200 men in Canton out of employment. The loss to the barber fraternity in China must be enormous.

CIVIL SERVICE CRICKET CLUB.

The Hon. Mr. W. Chatham presided over a special meeting of members of this Club which was held at the match last week.

The CHAIRMAN said the business of the meeting was to confirm a resolution, passed at their previous meeting, "That a permanent club building be erected." Since the last meeting plans had been prepared, and tenders had been obtained. So far no application had been made to the Government for permission to erect the building, but he did not think there would be any obstacles put in the way. The design was a promising one, and would provide a handsome and valuable place for the club.

Mr. JEFFREY informed members that four tenders had been received for the following prices:—\$4,800, \$4,400, \$3,850, and \$3,750. Another tender was for \$3,000, but contained a provision that old, sound bricks might be used. There was no objection to this.

The motion passed at a previous meeting was confirmed.

The CHAIRMAN said \$3,000 was within the limit of what they expected to spend. He was informed that \$2,600 had been obtained up to the present, and the club funds would be able to provide the balance if all went well. It did not matter if the materials were old, so long as they were sound, because they would be entirely invisible when the building was finished. What concerned them was to get the building within their means. He proposed that the committee be authorised to accept the tender once the sanction of the Government had been obtained.

The proposition was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN said the contractors were a substantial firm, and, assuming they got good weather, they should be able to finish within the time specified—four months.

EMPEROR FRANCIS JOSEPH I.

DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS AT HONGKONG.

The Austro-Hungarian community on Dec. 2 loyally celebrated the Diamond Jubilee of the reign of H. M. Francis Joseph I. Emperor of Austria and King of Hungary. The consulate was closed for the day, the Consul and Mrs. Von Wiser holding an At Home at their residence "The First," Magazine Gap Road, in honour of the occasion. Despite rather inclement weather there was large attendance of the leading residents of the community to tender their felicitations, including His Excellency the Governor, assisted by Captain Simson, A.D.C., and Mr. Brackenbury (Private Secretary), H. E. General Broadwood, the Officer Commanding the Forces, H. E. Vice-Admiral Sir Hedworth Lambton and his A.D.C., Flag Lieutenant H. B. Mullenoux, Commodore Mrs. and Miss Lyon, Bishop Pozzoni, the Consuls representing the various nations of the world, Hon. Mr. F. H. and Mrs. May, Hon. Mr. W. and Mrs. Chatham, Hon. Mr. E. A. Hewett, Sir Francis Pigot, Capt. Blanchflower, Capt. G. C. Heathcote, Lieutenant Colonel Bayard, Commanding Officer of the Buffs, Major Percy J. Probyn of the Royal Army Medical Corps, The Officers Mess of the Royal Garrison Artillery, The Officers Mess of the Buffs, The Commanding Officers of the German cruisers and gunboat *Arcona* and *Tsingtao*, with their Officers Messes, The Right Reverend Pater Augustin Placzek, The Rev. Pastor and Mrs. Johann Mader, Mr. and Mrs. Harris of the Imperial Chinese Customs at Kowloon, The Austro-Hungarian Colony and many civilians.

Flags adorned the grounds of the residence and in the hall was a large portrait of His Majesty wreathed with evergreens. The Band of The Buffs discoursed an excellent programme of music which included the following numbers:—

March "Under the Double Eagle."
Overture "Tannhauser" Wagner
Reminiscences Verdi
Vals "Blue Danube" Strauss
Polonaise Chopin
Selection "Faust" Gounod
Entr'acte from 3rd Act Lohengrin.
March "Hoch Habsburg" Kaps.

The Austro-Hungarian National Anthem brought the proceedings to a close.

The Consul subsequently conveyed the congratulations of H. E. the Governor to Vienna by telegram.

The Austro-Hungarian community later dined with Mr. Kitzmann, who is president of the Austro-Hungarian Benevolent Society in the Colony.

THE AMERICAN FLEET AT MANILA

NO SHORE LEAVE FOR THE MEN.

Admiral Sperry in a letter to the Governor-General of the Philippines last week said he had decided not to give the men of the fleet shore leave. Among other reasons for the decision are the following:—The daily reports of the bureau of health show that there is still cholera in the city; the fact that some of the cases found are dead or in an advanced stage of the disease indicates that there has been concealment; the house to house inspection has been abandoned; Commissioner Worcester's report shows that Manila is in an unsanitary condition; the absence of quarantine against the provinces makes it possible for cholera to be reintroduced into the city any day; the fleet's cruise to the United States lies through the tropics and were shore liberty granted here, in addition to the thousands of men in the command, the fleet would face the danger of quarantine at Colombo and other ports of call on the cruise.

The *Cublenews* comments on this as follows:—The letter of Admiral Sperry in which he states his definite refusal to allow the crews of the ships shore liberty is a severe rebuff to the generous hospitality prepared by the citizens of Manila for the men of the Battleship Fleet. His refusal does not seem to us founded on reason. The example of the Philippine Squadron seems to disprove the Admiral's contention of danger. We feel so keenly on this subject that we hesitate to write upon it. It is better perhaps to leave unsaid what one might say.

SUPREME COURT.

Wednesday, 2nd December.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. H. H. J. GOMPERTZ (ACTING PUISNE JUDGE).

CLAIM AGAINST A SHIPPING COMPANY.

Yun Wan, the lawful husband of Yun Yan Shi deceased, and Yun Ah Mui, the infant daughter of both, brought an action against the Indo-China Steam Navigation Company, Limited to recover \$1000 damages for loss sustained by the death of said Yun Yan Shi caused by negligence of the defendants' servants in navigating the s.s. *Loong Sang* in the harbour of Hongkong on 19th June, 1908, whereby a collision took place between the *Loong Sang* and the licensed junk No. 2566 on which the said Yun Yan Shi was a passenger. The deceased had been in receipt of from \$12 to \$15 per month as wages and had contributed up to the time of her death towards the household expenses of the plaintiff and had paid solely for the maintenance and education of Yun Ah Mui. Mr Otto Kong Sing appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. Hastings appeared for the defendants.

Mr. Otto Kong Sing stated that his clerk who had taken the statements was ill and he was unable to proceed with the case. He therefore asked for an adjournment.

This was acceded to.

Friday, 4th December.

IN BANKRUPTCY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE CHIEF JUSTICE (SIR F. PIGOTT.)

RECEIVING ORDER RESCINDED.

Re the Cheong Wing Bank. Mr. E. J. Grist made application for an order rescinding the receiving order. A report was made by the Official Receiver and certain advertisements were inserted in newspapers. Only one creditor filed an objection to the receiving order being objected and he was represented by Mr. Hastings who now consented.

The Official Receiver offered no objection and the application was granted.

S. E. ALLANA'S AFFAIRS.

Re S. M. E. Allana. Mr. J. Scott Harston appeared in support of the petition and asked that the two receiving orders should be consolidated.

Mr. Hastings, who appeared for the debtor said there was already a receiving order filed against this man, and he submitted his Lordship had no power to consolidate the receiving orders. One petition was presented by the debtor against himself and the other was presented by the petitioning creditor.

His Lordship thought it was a case where the receiving orders should be consolidated, as the document was not to be attacked.

Eventually it was agreed that the orders should be consolidated.

AHMET RUMJAHN'S INSOLVENCY.

Re Ahmet Rumjahn. Mr. F. P. Hett, appearing for the Hongkong and Manila Yuen Shing Exchange and Trading Company, said they had been in treaty with the debtor but had not been able to arrive at a settlement. The act of bankruptcy was notice of suspension of payment expressed in letters and also verbally. The assets were estimated at \$300,000 and the liabilities at \$285,000. This would indicate that he was solvent. The estate consists of real property in this Colony and the debtor attributes his position simply to depreciation of real property in the Colony. A debtor must file an estimate of his assets, but he is clearly insolvent as if the property were sold it would fetch very little.

The adjudication order was granted.

Singapore has up to this year had the unenviable distinction among Scotsmen of being the one place in the East without a St. Andrew's Society, but a very largely attended meeting of Scotsmen there last week decided to form one, and unanimously elected Captain Sir Arthur Young, K.C.M.G., as President.

INTERESTING SHIPPING CASE AT SHANGHAI.

In the Supreme Court of Shanghai on the 25th ult. Mr. Justice Bourne delivered the following judgment in "The British American Tobacco Co v the Canadian Pacific Railway Co":—

This case was tried by me with a Jury on October, 29th and 30th, 1908. The undisputed facts are that the "Empress of China" sank at her moorings at Vancouver on October 23rd, 1907 between 5.30 and 6 p.m. in consequence of the condenser discharge-pipe being negligently left open. The plaintiffs claim against the shipowners on an implied warranty of seaworthiness, i.e. that the ship should be fit to receive the plaintiffs' cargo of cigarettes.

I accept the report attached to Mr. Sayer's affidavit of November 10, 1908 as a correct record of my summing up and the findings may be summarized as follows:

1.—That the ship was seaworthy at about 11 a.m. at about which time the shipping of the cigarettes was commenced.

2.—That the ship was unseaworthy and in imminent danger at 3.30 p.m. when the shipping of the cigarettes was about finished, but the Jury cannot say that the last case of cigarettes was on board.

3.—That they cannot say whether the ship became unseaworthy before the completion of the shipping of the cigarettes: they do not understand enough about ships to say the moment when she became unseaworthy.

How ought judgment to be entered on these findings?

Mr. Macleod claimed that judgement ought to be entered for the defendants because they had provided a ship which was fit to receive cargo when the act of shipping the cigarettes began or in the alternative because the burden of proof was on the plaintiffs and had not been discharged. This case differs from the *Carron Park* (15 P. D. p. 203) in that here the shipping of the cigarettes went on continuously up to an hour at about which the Jury find the ship to have been unseaworthy, while in the *Carron Park* the shipping ceased at a time when the ship was seaworthy, the act of negligence occurring during the night, after an ascertained quantity of the cargo in question had been shipped. The Judge (Sir James Hannen P.) said "if the act of negligence—did not render the vessel unseaworthy for the reception of this cargo which had already been loaded on board the vessel when (she was) in good condition." I can find no authority for the proposition of defendants' counsel that the shipowner's duty is fulfilled when he has provided a ship fit to receive the cargo at the commencement of the act of loading that cargo *Cohn v. Davidson* (2. Q. B. D. p. 460). In regard to the burden of proof the Jury have not answered the material question, what proportion of the cigarettes had already been shipped when the vessel became unseaworthy?—See end of Lord Selborne's judgement in *Steel v. State Line s.s. Co.* 3 A. Cap. 16. For these reasons I think judgement cannot be entered for the defendants.

And judgement could only be entered for the plaintiffs if the jury having found the ship to be seaworthy at 11 a.m., had further found that at some time before the shipping of the cigarettes was finished the ship had become unseaworthy, and if the law was that such unseaworthiness occurring before a continuous shipment had been completed related back to the commencement of the act of shipping and rendered the ship unseaworthy *ab initio*. But the jury did not so find: nor does that seem to be the law. (*Hannen v. Woodman* 3 Taunton p. 301. *McFadden v. Blue Star Line* 1905 C. B. D. vol. 1. p. 697).

The law as I gather it from these cases, seems to be that the ship must be seaworthy for the reception of each package as it is carried on board. But the jury say they cannot find the moment when the ship became unseaworthy nor whether the last case of cigarettes was or was not on board at 3.30 p.m. when they do find the ship to have been unseaworthy.

I come to the conclusion then that on these findings no judgement can be entered either way (*Steel v. State Line S. S. Co.* 3 A. C. p. 72.)

There is no order as to costs.

FAR EASTERN TELEGRAMS.

JAPAN AND AMERICA.

Tokyo, December 1st.

The Government still preserves silence with regard to the agreement reported to be concluded between the United States and Japan. The official text is naturally awaited with great eagerness. The newspapers, though approving of the principle, are critical of the terms.

The semi-official "Kokumin" opines that the agreement is important as the Anglo-Japanese treaty as affection Japanese interests.

The "Asahi" regrets the absence of any reference to the question of immigration restrictions, the existence of which argues a lack of mutual confidence.

Tokyo, December 2nd.

The Foreign Office has published the notes exchanged between Sir Kogoro Takahira, Japanese Minister at Washington, and the Hon. Elihu Root, American Secretary of State, which are dated November 30th.

The substance of these notes is that the United States and Japan agree to the maintenance of the *status quo* for the free and peaceful development of the commerce of the Pacific.

The said Powers further agree to support the independence and integrity of China, and the "open door" policy.

Finally, should any event occur threatening the *status quo*, the respective Governments will take measures accordingly.

A LIBEL ACTION.

Tokyo, December 2nd.

Mr. Preston, the Canadian Commissioner, has instituted an action for libel against the *Japan Herald* claiming damages to the extent of Yen 20,000.

FATAL EXPLOSION AT SINGAPORE.

Singapore, December 2nd.

A gelignit blasting charge prematurely exploded at the Pulo Ubin Quarries to-day.

A European named Ross was blown to pieces, two Chinese were killed, and five others were seriously injured.

The stone was being quarried for the Singapore Harbour Works.

JAPAN AND AMERICA.

TEXT OF THE AGREEMENT.

The following is the full text of the Agreement between Japan and the United States, which we are enabled to publish through the courtesy of the Mr. Funatsu, the Japanese Consul:—

LETTER FROM SIR KOGORO TAKAHIRA, JAPANESE MINISTER AT WASHINGTON, TO THE HON. ELIHU ROOT, AMERICAN SECRETARY OF STATE.

SIR,—The exchange of views between us which has taken place at the several interviews which I have recently had the honour of holding with you, has shown that Japan and the United States, holding important outlying insular possessions in the region of the Pacific Ocean, the Governments of the two countries are animated by a common aim, policy and intention in that region.

Believing that a frank avowal of that aim, policy and intention would not only tend to strengthen the relations of friendship and good neighbourhood which have immemorially existed between Japan and the United States but would materially contribute to the preservation of the general peace, the Imperial Government have authorised me to present to you an outline of their understanding of that common aim, policy and intention.

1. It is the wish of the two Governments to encourage the free and peaceful development of their commerce on the Pacific Ocean.

2. The policy of both Governments, uninfluenced by any aggressive tendencies, is directed to the maintenance of the existing *status quo* in the region above mentioned, and to the defence of the principle of equal opportunity for commerce and industry in China.

3. They are accordingly firmly resolved reciprocally to respect the territorial possessions belonging to each other in the said region.

4. They are also determined to preserve the common interests of all Powers in China by supporting by all pacific means at their disposal, the independence and integrity of China, and the principle of equal opportunity for commerce and industry of all nations in that empire.

5. Should any event occur threatening the *status quo* as above described, or the principle of equal opportunity as above defined, it remains for the two Governments to communicate with each other in order to arrive at an understanding as to what measures they may consider it useful to take.

If the foregoing outline accords with the view of the Government of the United States, I shall be gratified to receive your confirmation.

From HON. ELIHU ROOT, AMERICAN SECRETARY OF STATE, to SIR KOGORO TAKAHIRA, JAPANESE MINISTER at WASHINGTON.

YOUR EXCELLENCY—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Note of to-day setting forth the result of the exchange of views between us in our recent interviews defining the understanding of the two Governments in regard to their policy in the region of the Pacific Ocean.

It is a pleasure to inform you that this expression of mutual understanding is welcome to the Government of the United States as appropriate to the happy relations of the two countries, and as the occasion for a concise mutual affirmation of that accordant policy respecting the Far East which the two Governments have so frequently declared in the past.

I am happy to be able to confirm to Your Excellency, on behalf of the United States, the declaration of the two Governments embodied in the following words.

Then follow the five points mentioned in Japan's Note which are repeated in exactly the same wording.

THE CHINESE EMPEROR'S ACCESSIONAL EDICT.

HONOURS AND PARDONS.

The first edict issued by the new Chinese Emperor on his accession to the throne states that he has been appointed successor to the late Emperor Kwong Hsu, and that he will do all in his power to follow in the steps of his august predecessor. Chinese New Year, the edict states, will be the first year of Sun Tsung. In commemoration of His Majesty's ascension all Princes and Princesses are to be honoured according to their station. All officials, Chinese and Man-chus, at the capital and in the provinces, are to be promoted one degree in rank. Each and every civil official from the fourth rank downwards at the capital, and each official in the provinces from the third rank downwards, is to be given the privilege of sending a son to be educated at the Imperial College. All officials who have been degraded are to be restored to their rank, and against those who were sentenced to forfeit their pay, the order of forfeiture is to be cancelled. All officers connected with Government schools are to be promoted. From each district or prefecture a citizen who bears an excellent character is to be rewarded the second degree. All criminals who have not committed murder, or taken up arms against the Government, or who have not been convicted for being deserters from the army, are to be pardoned. Pardons will also be extended to exiles reported to bear good conducts, after an absence of three years. The liability of officials who failed to pay up revenues owing to the Government is to be cancelled. Soldiers and civilians over 70 years of age are to be exempted from any kind of service to the Government. Those over 80 years of age are to be made officers of the ninth (lowest) rank; those over 90 are to be made officers of the eighth rank; those over 100 are to be made officers of the seventh rank; and those over 120 are to be made officers of the sixth rank. All citizens from 100 to 120 years of age and over are to be provided with means to defray the cost of erection of statues of honour. The edict concludes

by exhorting all officials, military and civil, to be diligent in their duties and loyal to their Emperor and country.

THE PROPOSED CONSTITUTION.

A second edict states that on the first day of the 8th moon an edict was issued by the late Emperor promising that constitutional government was to be established within nine years from that date. His Majesty exhorts all officials to make preparations for the putting into effect of the promise contained in that edict.

THE DEFENDERS OF SHANGHAI.

A CALL TO ARMS.

With, in the majority of cases, notice of little more than an hour or two, practically the whole of the volunteer forces of the Settlement turned out one evening last week and within a very short time from the closing of the business houses the central and eastern districts were occupied by the various companies. Although the orders came out so late the men turned up in large numbers, and the scheme of defence which it was intended to demonstrate was fully carried out. The main part of the evening's operation was the holding of all the bridges leading to the central district and the effective patrolling of the eastern district, and the work was accomplished in a manner highly creditable to the S.V.C. By six o'clock the Germans and Chinese had occupied all the bridges along the Yang King pang, while along the Defence Creek "A" Co were posted. They in turn were met by the Japanese who along with the Customs Co formed a guard along the Soochow Creek up to the Garden Bridge. From this point the defence of the Settlement was given over to "B" Co who occupied Hongkew, and the Americans and Portuguese who patrolled the district bounded by the Hongkew Creek. This left the Light Horse, Mounted Infantry, Artillery, and Maxims free to patrol the centre of the Settlement, and from six to seven o'clock all the principal streets from the Bund to the Defence Creek were visited. Beside the volunteers a troop of Sikh policemen turned out fully armed, and played their part in the defence scheme. During the operations the police officials and commanding officers of the volunteers paid visits of inspection in motor cars, and watched the mobilisation of the troops. About seven o'clock the order to dismiss was given, and within a very short time the streets were as innocent of the khaki clad men as they had been a couple of hours previously.—*Shanghai Mercury*.

THE AMOY CLUB.

A REGRETTABLE SITUATION.

The community of Amoy have been much excited over the annual general meeting of the Amoy Club. The main bone of contention was whether or not there should be a paid secretary, as has been the case for the last five or six years. After a heated discussion by a vote of 17 to 15 it was decided not to continue the services of a paid secretary. The immediate consequences had not been foreseen by the reforming party, "Young Kulangsu", as they may be aptly styled; for there and then the following individuals, who had been elected to the Committee of the Club or who were next on the balloting list, declined to serve:—the British Consul, the British Vice-Consul, the Deputy Commissioner of Customs, the heads or local representatives of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, Tait & Co., Boyd & Co., Pasdag & Co., Douglas Leprank & Co., and several others. Eventually the residuum composing the Committee for the following year included, two Americans, one German, one Frenchman, and one Englishman,—and that in a Club of whose members over 50 per cent. are British.

Two large fires occurred at Shanghai on the 27th ult., one being at the Travellers Hotel in Hongkew; the second at the corner of Nanking and Chekiang roads. The total insurance in force upon the premises burnt out in the latter fire is stated to be in the neighbourhood of Tls. 100,000.

COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.—

RICE.

HONGKONG, 7th December.—The position of the market is nearly the same, as when last reported.

Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary	\$5.40	to	\$5.50
" Round, Good quality ...	5.10	to	5.15
" Long	5.45	to	5.50
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2 ...	5.00	to	5.05
" Garden, " No. 1 ...	5.20	to	5.35
" White,	5.40	to	5.45
" Fine Cargo	5.05	to	5.15

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, December 2nd.

Quotations are:—

Malwa New	\$1200	per picul.
Malwa Old	\$1210	do.
Malwa Older	\$1220	do.
Malwa Very Old	\$1240	do.
Persian Fine Quality	\$870	do.
Persian Extra Fine	\$950	do.
Patna New	\$1105	per chest.
Patna Old	\$1130	do.
Benares New	\$1030	do.
Benares Old	\$—	do.

Foochow, Nov. 3rd, 1908, Business during the week is summarised as under:—

VESSEL.	Malwa chests.	Patna chests.	Benares chests.	Persian chests.
Stock on 25th June, 1908	23	15	9	54
July 3, Imported during the week	26	5	—	28
Total	54	20	9	8
Sales during the week	20	8	4	23
Estimated Stock	34	0	5	59
Quotations	Pls. New \$890 to \$1030 to \$1140	81	1.20 \$855 to \$897 1/2	paper.

YARN.

Foochow, 27th November.—To date the imports since 1st June amount to 15,605 as against 19,545 last year.

KEROSENE.

Foochow, 27th November.—To date 2,843,080 gallons have been imported since 1st June as against 2,315,408 last year.

FLOUR.

Foochow, 27th November.—During the week 14,570 bags were imported, bringing the total since 1st June up to 250,929 as compared with 270,831 last year.

JAPANESE MARKETS.

Kobe, 16th, November.—Cotton.—American.—The report of Ginners issued on the 9th inst., indicates 8,199,000 bales, being an excess of two million bales as compared with the corresponding period of last year. Contrary to expectations, however, "forward" quotations have not been much affected, Middling being quoted at Y. 30,000, but no business of importance has transpired. "Spot" continues quiet at the same rate as "forward." Neil's report is "bearish" with an estimate of 13,500,000 Bales for the New Crop. Indian.—The comparatively high rates ruling have prohibited any large business from being done, notwithstanding it being the season for operating in new crop. The cause of quietness in the market may also be attributed to a certain extent to the absence of "forward" sales of Yarn. A fair business has been done in "spot" owing to short stocks in the market, as well as in hands of mills. Quotations are: Broach Y. 26.00; Akola Khamguam Y. 22.75; Bengal Y. 22.50 at 22.75. Chinese.—Business in both "forward" and "spot" is very quiet. Closing rates are: "Best" Y. 24.50. "Common" Y. 22.50. Shirtings.—Market very quiet all round, deliveries poor. Cotton Goods and Fancies.—Market continues quiet with a few enquires. Despite the issue of a "bearish" report regarding the American new crop of cotton, Manchester prices show little change. Worsteds and Woollens.—Practically nothing doing, deliveries poor and market weak. Metal.—Market weaker, only a small business doing. Rice.—Weak, prices declining.

PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noel Murray & Co. of Shanghai in their latest Piece Goods Report, dated Shanghai 27th November, states:—The full significance of the recent events in the Capital has now been realised by the country and ample signs of loyal and respectful mourning are, after some little dilatoriness, now in evidence. So far the new order of things is running smoothly, and all is quiet, to the outside world at all events, but there is naturally a certain amount of anxiety to know more precisely if this can be relied upon as settled and lasting. For that reason trade is almost at a stand-still at the moment pending more definite information concerning the future policy of the Government. The Country is undoubtedly in urgent want of goods and orders are already in hand, but are being kept back pending the assurance that there is to be no serious trouble. Money is still very tight, but judicious relief is being doled out and everything possible done to bring about healthy state of affairs. Rather disturbing news was received early in the interval concerning a mutiny amongst some of the troops assembled up the Yangtze for the maneuvers, but it appears to have been promptly quelled without causing much alarm beyond the immediate neighbourhood. No steamers have cleared for Newchwang direct since the date of our last report, but we understand the trade there is progressing satisfactorily and should lead to shipments by way of one of the open Ports. Tientsin has been buying a little in the way of American goods no doubt to take advantage of the cheaper direct route while it is open, but shipments via Chinwangtao are already being talked about to avoid the risk of being ice bound at Taku. The threatened taboing of Kiaochow by shippers, which we mentioned two or three weeks ago, has been very effectual, judging by the recent Customs returns, but Chefoo has not benefited to any great extent as yet. The River trade is exceedingly quiet, but Ningpo is taking moderately good supplies. The deliveries declared this week of American goods are especially noticeable there being, in addition to the fairly heavy shipments to Newchwang, 7,230 pieces, Drills and 9,740 pieces Sheetings for New York, which is significant, and shows the wide margin there must be between that market and this in some goods. The Korean market is inactive, and although no specific reason can be given the dealers here who are interested in that trade do not anticipate any further demand until next season. Recent telegrams from Russia would seem to indicate that the free port system of Vladivostok will soon be a thing of the past, which will be a pity, as it is getting increasingly useful as an outlet for this market. The Manchester market is about unchanged from all appearances, though there is little enough business offering for this to test it at all. The only thing we have gathered is that single Yarns are slightly easier. Not much support can be expected from India we are afraid, as the Natives there or at all events in Bombay, appear to have done very badly this last year, their losses it is said amounting to £66,500. The Liverpool Cotton market is advancing steadily, yesterday the spot quotation for Mid American coming 5.11d. and this morning 5.17d. February/March being quoted 4.77d. and Egyptian 8 1/2d spot. The New York market is still high, Papperell Drills having been bought for India at 11s 4d. which is the only quotation we have heard of this week. Cotton is higher at 9.08 cents for March option. The Yarn market has been almost lifeless and native Cotton is from four to six mace lower. The private market for Piece goods is also lifeless, the few transactions that have taken place being of the veriest retail nature. So far as we can learn Black Italians have been the chief article dealt in. At the Yuen Fong Auction on the 19th inst. the effect of the change in the political situation had not been realised and prices were generally speaking fairly steady for Grey goods, while White were distinctly firmer. The few Turkey Reds on offer were mostly much weaker, though one or two were quite steady. Fast Black Cotton Italians and Venetians were steady to firm. The sale this morning at E-wu, however, showed quite a drooping tone, with very few exceptions, the brighter colors of Woollen goods being quite unsaleable. Some reselling has taken place amongst the Natives in American Sheetings for Tientsin, amongst which we hear of Sycco Cart, Tw. Flag, Foh in a circle and Tiger and Lion at Tls. 4.35/4.40, also Duck's Head at Tls. 4.70 and 40 yard Beave Jeans at Tls. 5.00. There is an enquiry for Cotton Flannels but at rather easier prices.

SUGAR.

Kobe, 16th, November.—Beet.—Market quiet. Cane.—Raw.—Java.—During past fortnight, the market has gradually advanced. Muscovados Basis Pol. 96% colour 12 1/2 is now quoted at Y. 6.30 per picul ex ship. Osaka Refined.—The Trust Sales Office held action on the 4th inst., when 5,000 Bags were offered and 3,400 Bags were disposed of at an advance of from 2 to 3 sen in some grades while 1,800 Bags were withdrawn. In addition to above sale, 600 Bags Yokohama Sugar were sold at an advance of from 3 sen to 15 sen and 700 Bags Kobe Sugar were disposed of at an advance of from 10 sen to 20 sen.

EXPORTS:—

TEA.

Foochow, Nov. 27th.—The following settlements have taken place during the week:—

Congous.—4,009 Half-chests, viz:—

370 Half-chests	Paklum.
2,475 "	Panyong
205 "	Suey Kut
628 "	Yung How
124 "	Saryune.
206 "	Tong Fong Tong

Souchongs.—436 Half-chests.

Total arrivals, settlements and stock to date,

	1-Chests	1-Chests	1-Chests	1-Chests
	Congou.	Souchong.	Coolong.	Pekoe.
Arrivals	249,000	119,000	55,750	8,000
Settlements ..	221,890	114,968	38,417	7,534
Stocks	24,110	4,032	17,333	166

The total Export of Tea from Foochow to America, according to Invoices certified at the U. S. Consulate, from commencement of Season to date has been 3,791,015 as compared with 2,213,324 last season same date.

The Tea Export Summary from commencement of Season to date has been:—

	Total lbs.
Austria	1,427,577
France	1,237,343
Germany	3,714,176
Holland	1,047,153
London	4,519,124
Russia	763,654
Other Countries	359,779
South America	173,313
Australia & N. Z.	1,305,870
U. S. & Canada	4,193,787
South Africa	115,882
Coastwise Southward ..	54,871
Coastwise Northward ..	37,412
Total Shipments	18,951,400

The total shipments show an excess of 81,768 as compared with the corresponding date last season. The shipments to Europe amounted to 12,955,539 lbs.

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 7th December:—There is no market and there is no change of price \$83.50—\$84.50.

Foochow, 27th Nov.—There has been a great falling off in the export this year. Down to Nov. 27th the returns show an export 3,303 piculs as compared with 7,845 last year.

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per steamer *Tourane*, sailed on the 24th Nov., 1908:—Fr. Marseilles.—247 bales raw silk, 19 cases feathers, 5 bales human hair, 21 packages tea, 2 packages ribbons, 2 cases embroidery, 25 cases ylang ylang, 1 case cigars, 150 bales waste silk, 10 cases porcelain. For Lyons.—59 bales raw silk. For St. Chamo d.—15 bales raw silk. For Tamatave.—24 packages provisions. For Diego Suarez.—19 packages provisions.

Per P. & O. steamer *Oceana*, sailed on 28th November, 1908.—For Manchester.—400 bales waste silk. For Malaga.—32 1/2 chests tea. For Gibraltar.—1 case silk. For Lyons.—151 bales raw silk. For Marseilles.—50 bales waste silk, 73 bales raw silk. For London.—200 bales waste silk, 268 bales pierced cocoons, 220 1/2 chests tea, 63 bales raw silk, 25 cases camphor, 8 cases silk, 1 case embroidery, 18 packages private effects.

Per P. & O. steamer "Somali" sailed on 4th December, 1908.—For Rotterdam.—100 bales hemp. For Manchester.—100 bales waste silk. For Barcelona.—100 packages tea. For Glasgow.—125 cases ginger. For London.—200 bales pierced cocoon, 787 boxes tea, 59 bales waste silk, 20 bales cane, 2,489 rolls matting, 457 cases ginger, 50 cases ginger, 640 packages fire crackers, 27 cases chinaware, 21 packages wood-ware &c. 35 packages private effects.

HANKOW, 25th November.—The prices quoted are for the net shipping weight excluding cost of packing for export:—

	Per picul
Cowhides, best selected	Tls. 39.00
Do. seconds	" 35.00
Buffalo hides, best selected	" 22.50
Goatskins, untanned, chiefly white colour	" —
Buffalo Horns, average 3 lbs. each	" —
White China Grass, Wuchang and/or Poochi	" 9.20
White China Grass, Sinshan and/or Chayu	" 8.50
Green China Grass, Szechuen	" —
Jute	" 3.50
White Vegetable Tallow, Kinchow	" 11.80
White Vegetable Tallow, Pingchow and/or Macheng	" 10.80
White Vegetable Tallow, Mongyu	" —
Green Vegetable Tallow, Kiyu	" 11.00
Animal Tallow	" 11.80
Gallnuts, usual shape	" 16.20
Gallnuts, plum do.	" 18.00
Tobacco, Tingchow	" —
Tobacco, Wongkong	" —
Black Bristles, Rifings	" —
Feathers, grey and/or white Wild Duck	" —
Turmeric	" —
Sesamum Seed	" 4.95
Sesamum Seed Oil	" —
Wood Oil	" 8.30
Tea Oil	" —

HONGKONG SHARE QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 4th December, 1908.—A fair general business has been transacted during the week and rates on the whole show an improvement, only a few stocks having deteriorated. The chief features of the week are further improvements in the rates of Hongkong and Shanghai Banks and Unions, also in North Chinas. Sterling exchange has further declined to 1/8/16 for T/T and Bar silver to 22½.

BANKS.—The demand for Hongkong and Shanghai still continuing shares changed hands at 850, but with some fair lots off-ring at that, the rate receded temporarily to 845, at which a few shares were done, later however, with further buyers and no sellers, the market improved again to 850, at which a fair business was transacted, and the market closes steady to strong. The latest London rate per Reuters is £82, and the Shanghai rate \$885 at ex. 73, equal to 853 Hongkong rate. Nationals remain unchanged.

MARINE INSURANCES.—The demand for Unions still remaining unsatisfied and without any shares coming on the market, the rate has risen to 85, at which shares are in demand at time of closing. Cantons have changed hands at 190 and 195, closing with buyers at the former and sellers at the latter rates. North Chinas show a considerable improvement with sale at 100, closing with buyers. Yangtzes have buyers in the North at quotation.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong remain unchanged and without business. Chinas have improved to 103 with buyers.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have ruled quieter and after sales at 29½ close with sellers, and the probability of a slightly lower rate being accepted. Other stocks under this heading being without sales or changes call for no remarks.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have found buyers at 112½, and close in demand at that rate. Luzons continue neglected.

MINING.—Raubs have been done at 7½ up to 8, and close with buyers at the latter rate. Charbonnages are still in demand but no shares are obtainable.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks continue neglected, and are now quoted a point down at 91 sellers. Kowloon Wharfs have also ruled weak and have fallen a point to 44 without sales. Shanghai Docks show a considerable improvement having risen from 72 to 80, almost without sales, a local demand not having been satisfied. H. ngkew Wharfs after falling in the North to 14½, close firmer with buyers at 143.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong lands remain on offer at 93 without

finding buyers, also West Points at 96, Humphreys have been placed at the improved rate of 9½, and Hotel are now in demand at 80.

COTTON MILLS.—With the exception of Ewos which have improved to 7½, and Hongkongs which fallen to 10, we have no changes to report under this heading.

MISCELLANEOUS.—China Providents have improved to 9.75 with buyers after a small sale at 9.60. Hongkong Electrics have found buyers at 18, and close in demand at that rate. Green Islands and China Borneos have changed hands at 10 and 11 respectively, both closing with sellers. Langkats are quoted in Shanghai at 880. Other stocks under this heading remain unchanged and without business.

Quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS
Alhambra	Ps. 200	Nominal
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	\$850, buyers
National B. of China	28	London £-2
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	12s. 6d.	\$51, buyers
China-Borneo Co.	\$12	\$8, buyers
China Light & P. Co.	{ \$10 } { \$1 }	\$11, sellers \$5½, sellers
China Provident	\$10	\$9.75, buyers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 50	Tls. 70, buyers
Hongkong	\$10	\$10 sellers
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 55, buyers
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 72½, sellers
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 240, buyers
Dairy Farm	\$8	\$22½
Docks & Wharves—		
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$44, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$91, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$61	\$9½
Shanghai Dock and Eng. Co., Ltd.	{ Tls. 100 } { Tls. 100 }	Tls. 80, buyers Tls. 143, buyers
S'hai & H. Wharf	Tls. 100	Tls. 143, buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$12, sellers
G. Island Cement	\$10	\$10, sales & sellers
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$190, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$18, sales & buyers
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50	\$80, buyers
Hongkong Ice Co.	\$25	\$230, sellers
H. K. Milling Co., Ltd.	\$100	Nominal
Hongkong Rope Co.	\$10	\$24
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$195, buyers
China Fire	\$20	\$101, buyers
China Traders	\$25	\$87½
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$330, sellers
North China	25	Tls. 100, buyers
Union	\$100	\$815, buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$160
Land and Buildings—		
H'kong Land Invest.	\$100	\$93, sellers
Humphrey's Estate	\$10	\$94, sales
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$30, buyers
Shanghai Land	Tls. 50	Tls. 116½
West Point Building	\$50	\$46, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Res. 250	\$580, buyers
Raubs	18/10	\$8, buyers
Peak Tramways	{ \$10 } { \$1 }	\$14 \$2
Philippine Co.	\$10	\$8, sellers
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$112½, sales & buy.
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$20, sellers
Robinson Piano Co.	\$50	\$59
Steamship Companies—		
China and Manila	\$25	\$14, sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$33, buyers
H., Canton & M.	\$15	\$29½, sellers
Indo-China S. N. Co.	25	\$27 sellers \$17 sellers
Shell Transport Co.	21	47/8, buyers
Star Ferry	\$10	\$24
Do. New	5	\$15, buyers
South China M. Post.	\$25	\$24, buyers
Steam Laundry Co.	\$5	\$5, sellers
Stores & Dispensaries—		
Campbell, M. & Co.	\$10	\$9, sellers
Powell & Co., Wm.	\$7	\$4, sellers
Watkins	\$10	\$24, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$9, buyers
Wiesmann Ltd.	\$100	\$150
United Asbestos	\$1	\$12½
Do. Founders	\$0	230
Union Waterboat Co.	\$10	\$10, buyers

SHANGHAI SHARE QUOTATIONS.

26th November, 1908.

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATION.
Banks:—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	\$860, buyers
National of China...	28	\$51, buyers
Russo-Chinese	{ R187½ } { T. 25 }	Tls. 175, sellers
Insurance:—		
Union Society C'ton	\$100	\$790, sellers
North-China	25	Tls. 92½, buyers
Yangtze Assocn.	\$60	\$167½, sellers
Canton	\$50	\$225, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$312½, buyers
China Fire	\$20	\$101, buyers
Shipping:—		
Indo-China { pref. } { def. }	{ £10 } { £10 }	Tls. 38, buyers
Shell Trans. { ord. } & Trading { pref. }	{ £1 } { £10 }	\$22.50, sellers \$29.10, sellers
S'hai Tug & Lighter	{ £50 } { £50 }	Tls. 45, buyers Tls. 51, sellers
Taku Tug & Lighter	T50	Tls. 48, sellers
Kochien Transport- ation & Tow Boat	T50	Tls. 50, sellers
Docks & Wharves:—		
S'hai Dock & Eng.	T100	Tls. 72, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$106, sellers
S. & H'kew Wharf	T100	Tls. 144, sellers
H. K'loon W. & G.	\$50	\$49, sellers
Yangtze	T100	Tls. 217½, sellers
Sugar Companies:—		
Perak Cultivation	T50	Tls. 89½, sellers
China Refining	\$100	\$132½, sellers
Mining:—		
Raub Australian	{ £1 } { 18/10 }	\$8, sellers
Chinese Eng. & Min.	£1	Tls. 15½, x. d. bys.
Lands:—		
S'hai Investment	T50	Tls. 116½, sellers
H'kong Investment	\$100	\$99, sellers
Humphreys' Estate	\$10	\$104, sellers
Weihaiwei	T25	\$9, sellers
China	T50	Tls. 50, sellers
Anglo-French	T100	Tls. 100, sellers
Cotton:—		
Ewo	T50	Tls. 67, sellers
International	T75	Tls. 55, sellers
Laou Kung Mow	T100	Tls. 72½, sellers
Soy Chee	T500	Tls. 240, buyers
H'kong C. S. W. D.	\$10	\$9, buyers
Industrial:—		
Shanghai Gas	T50	Tls. 116½, buyers
Major Brothers	T50	Tls. 50, sellers
Shanghai Ice	T25	Tls. 14, sellers
China Flour Mill	T50	Tls. 40, sellers
S'hai Pulp & Paper	T100	Tls. 47½, sellers
Green Is. Cement	\$10	\$10, sellers
Matschappij, & Co., in Langkat	Gs. 100	Tls. 900, buyers
Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco	T20	Tls. 130, sellers
S'hai Waterworks	220	T. 410, buyers
Anglo-Ger. Brewery	100	\$85, buyers
A. Butler Cement, Tile Works	50	\$25, sellers
Kalumpang Rubber	50	Tls. 56, buyers
Eastern Fibre	10	nominal
Shanghai Electric Construction	210	27.10 sellers
Miscellaneous:—		
Hall & Holtz	\$20	\$20½, buyers
A. Llewellyn	\$80	\$58, buyers
A. S. Watson & Co.	\$10	\$114, sellers
Central Ordinary	\$15	\$12, buyers
Central Founders	\$15	\$400, buyers
S. Moutrie & Co.	\$50	\$47, sellers
Weeks & Co.	\$20	\$24, buyers
Astor House Hotel	\$25	\$16, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$98, sellers
Hotel des Colonies	T12.50	Tls. 6, sellers
Tsingtao Hotel Co.	\$100	nominal
Lane, Crawford & Co.	100	\$152½, buyers
Dunning & Co.	50	\$47½, sellers
S'hai Horse Bazar	T50	Tls. 42½, sellers
S'hai Mercury	T50	Tls. 50, sellers
S'hai Mutual Tele.	T50	Tls. 57, buyers
China Im. & Ex.		
Lumber	T100	Tls. 83, sellers
Shanghai Electric & Asbestos	\$25	\$23, sellers
Dallas Horse Re- pository	T50	Tls. 25, sellers
Printing Co.	T50	Tls. 50, sellers

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

J. P. BISSET & Co.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. of Shanghai in their Share Report for the week ending November 28th, 1908, state:—This week Maatschappij &c. in Langkat shares have again practically monopolized the attention of both investors and speculators, and a rise of Tls. 30 over last week's closing rates has to be recorded. Some business has also been put through in Shanghai and Hangkew Wharf Co., Ltd. shares at gradually receding rates, the bulk of the transactions reported being adjustments for the December Settlement. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks. A sale is reported on the 23rd at \$857½ with exchanged 73, and shares are now wanted at \$860. The T. T. rate on London to-day is 2/3. Insurance.—North China Insurance Co have improved to Tls. 92½, and there is a demand at this figure. Yangtze Insurance have sellers at \$167½. Shipping.—There is no business reported this week. Docks and Wharves.—Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co. Ltd. Sellers have prevailed strongly, and although there is no business officially reported the rate has dropped from Tls. 77½ to Tls. 72½. There are some buyers at this price for December delivery. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Co. Ltd. Our rates at closing last week were Tls. 149 cash and Tls. 150 for December, but every day since, the market has been weaker. At the close the cash rate is nominally Tls. 145, and this is the best rate obtainable for December. Sugar.—No business reported. Mining.—No business reported. Lands.—No business reported. Industrial.—Ewo Cottons have had a slight decline to Tls. 67 for December. 1 ternations have been dealt in at Tls. 5½. Shanghai G. S. Co. Small lots are wanted at Tls. 116½. Maatschappij, etc. in Langkats.—A very good business has taken place all the week and the demand has been consistent. Both cash and forward shares have been eagerly sought for, and at the close we would quote our rates as Tls. 880 for cash, Tls. 880 for December, and Tls. 910 for March, with buyers all along the line. Shanghai Electric Construction Co.—Shares are now on offer at £7.10½. Miscellaneous.—There is no change of any importance and rates will be found as appended below. Loans and Debentures.—Shanghai Municipal Six per cent Debentures have been placed at Tls. 104.

EXCHANGE.

HONGKONG, December 7th

ON LONDON.—Telegraphic Transfer	18
Bank Bills, on demand	18½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	18½
Bank Bills at 4 months' sight	18½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	18½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	18½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	210
Credits 4 months' sight	214½
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	171
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	40½
Credits, 60 days' sight	41½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	125½
Bank, on demand	126½
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	125½
Bank on demand	126½
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	75½
Private, 30 days' sight	76½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	81½
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	82
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	71½
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	100½
ON HAIPHONG.—	
On demand	103 p.c. pm.
ON SAIGON.—On demand	103 p.c. pm.
ON BANGKOK.—On demand	90½
FOREIGNERS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$11.80
GOLD LEAF 100 fine, per taal	\$61.80
BAR SILVER per oz	22½

SUBSIDIARY COINS.

		per cent discount.
Chinese	20 cents pieces	\$3.85
"	10 " "	5.15
Hongkong	20 " "	3.60
"	10 " "	3.70

FREIGHT.

Hankow, 25th Nov.—Per Conference Steamers, To London and Northern Continental ports 45/- per ton of 40 cft. plus river freight. To Genoa, Marseilles or Havre 45/- per ton of 40 cft. plus river freight. To New York (via Suez) General Cargo, 30/- per ton of 40 cft. plus river freight. To New York (via Suez), Tea 37/8 per ton of 40 cft. plus river freight. To New York (Overland) per carload; Tea G. \$1½ cents per lb gross; less than carload Tea G. \$1½ cents per lb gross; plus river freight. To Shanghai:—Tea and General Cargo, Tls. 1.60 at 1.80 per ton, weight or measurement.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

November.—ARRIVALS.
 27. Corse, French str., from Marseilles.
 27. Johanne, German str., from Singapore.
 27. Joshin Maru, Jap. str., from Swatow.
 27. Nord, British str., from Singapore.
 27. Oceana, British str., from Shanghai.
 27. Taiwan, British str., from Manila.
 27. Tean, British str., from Manila.
 28. Amigo, German str., from Haiphong.
 28. Germania, German str., from Tourane.
 28. Hunsang, British str., from Samarang.
 28. Hupeh, British str., from Haiphong.
 28. L. Scheiff, German str., from Chefoo.
 28. Takasaki Maru, Jap. str., from Bombay.
 29. Fiume, German str., from Newchwang.
 29. Fukura Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
 29. Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
 29. Hailan, French str., from Hoihow.
 29. Kaga Maru, Jap. str., from Shanghai.
 29. Kintuck, British str., from Shanghai.
 29. Knivsberg, German str., from Swatow.
 29. Shinchiku Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
 29. Szechuen, British str., from Chefoo.
 29. Titan, British str., from Manila.
 30. Chenan, British str., from Shanghai.
 30. Dardanus, Br. str., from Port Swettenham.
 30. Hopsang, British str., from Chefoo.
 30. Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
 30. Oopack, British str., from Shanghai.
 30. Sexta, German str., from Newchwang.

December—

1. Amara, British str., from Hongay.
 1. China, Am. str., from San Francisco.
 1. Helene, German str., from Swatow.
 1. Japan, British str., from Moji.
 1. Kwangtah, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 1. Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
 1. Mogori Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
 1. Prinz Ludwig, Ger. str., from Yokohama.
 1. Zafiro, British str., from Manila.
 2. Chipshing, British str., from Tientsin.
 2. Daijin Maru, Jap. str., from Swatow.
 2. Haiyang, British str., from Coast Ports.
 2. Hangsang, British str., from Shanghai.
 2. Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
 2. Huichow, British str., from Chinwantao.
 2. Montague, British str., from Vancouver.
 2. Wray Castle, British str., from Foochow.
 3. Buelow, German str., from Bremen.
 3. Daiya Maru, Jap. str., from Wakamatsu.
 3. Kamo Maru, Jap. str., from London.
 3. Lightning, British str., from Singapore.
 3. Palembang, Dutch str., from Amoy.
 3. Somali, British str., from Yokohama.
 3. Triumph, German str., from Hoihow.
 4. Bints Thuan, French str., from Manila.
 4. Frithjof, Norwegian str., from Quan Yen.
 4. Glenogle, British str., from Singapore.
 4. Haimun, British str., from Swatow.
 4. Hilary, German str., from Pulo Lant.
 4. Laertes, British str., from Saigon.
 4. Loksang, British str., from Chefoo.
 4. Nile, British str., from London.
 4. Taming, British str., from Manila.
 4. Tjibodas, Dutch str., from Moji.
 4. Wongkoi, German str., from Bangkok.

November.—

DEPARTURES.

27. Clara Jebson, German str., for Haiphong.
 27. Devanha, British str., for Shanghai.
 27. Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
 27. Kowloon, German str., for Nagasaki.
 27. Kwongsang, British str., for Swatow.
 27. Pheumpenh, British str., for Saigon.
 27. Yawata Maru, Jap. str., for Australia.
 27. Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
 28. Benmohr, British str., for Nagasaki.
 28. Bingo Maru, Japanese str., for Yokohama.
 28. Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 28. E. of China, Br. str., for Vancouver.
 28. Fooksang, British str., for Singapore.

28. Hikosan M., Jap. str., for Kutchinotsu.
 28. Mathilde, German str., for Haiphong.
 28. Nippon Maru, Jap. str., for Yokohama.
 28. Nord, British str., for Tientsin.
 28. Oceana, British str., for Europe, &c.
 28. Rubi, British str., for Manila.
 28. Tjilatjap, Dutch str., for Batavia.
 28. Tungshing, British str., for Shanghai.
 28. Wakamatsu M., Jap. str., for Kutchinotsu.
 29. Corse, French str., for Shanghai.
 29. Eclipse, Br. 4-masted bark, for Baltimore.
 29. J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Hoihow.
 29. Joshin Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
 29. Yatsing, British str., for Ningpo.
 29. Yochow, British str., for Shanghai.
 29. Yunnan, British str., for Amoy.
 30. Germania, German str., for Singapore.

December—

1. Chinkiang, British str., for Tsingtau.
 1. Choyssang, British str., for Swatow.
 1. Courfield, British str., for Durban.
 1. Dardanus, British str., for Shanghai.
 1. Haiching, British str., for Swatow.
 1. Johanne, German str., for Haiphong.
 1. Kiangping, Chinese str., for Chinkiang.
 1. Ningchow, British str., for Manila.
 1. Toonan, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 2. Amigo, German str., for Hoihow.
 2. Fausang, British str., for Hongay.
 2. Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.
 2. Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
 2. Kintuck, British str., for Singapore.
 2. Knivsberg, German str., for Hoihow.
 2. Kumsang, British str., for Singapore.
 2. Oopack, British str., for Shanghai.
 2. Pongtong, German str., for Bangkok.
 2. P. Ludwig, German str., for Europe.
 2. Rajah, German str., for Bangkok.
 2. Tean, British str., for Manila.
 3. Bujun Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
 3. Fukura Maru, Jap. str., for Moji.
 3. Helene, German str., for Hoihow.
 3. Hupeh, British str., for Haiphong.
 3. Kiukiang, British str., for Shanghai.
 3. Manila, German str., for Australia.
 3. S. Sturluson, Danish str., for Nagasaki.
 3. Titan, German str., for London.
 3. Wray Castle, British str., for Singapore.
 4. Buelow, German str., for Shanghai.
 4. Haiyang, British str., for Swatow.
 4. Loongsang, British str., for Manila.
 4. Mausang, British str., for Sandakan.
 4. Moyori Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per *Chipshing*, from Weihaiwei, Lieutenant Kerwin, Masters F. Summers, R. Lamout, E. Lamout, A. B. Lello, J. F. Messrs and A. B. Bertram.

Per *Buelow*, from Bremen, Mr and Mrs Beattie, Mr and Mrs Turner, Mr and Mrs A. Waterhouse, Mr and Mrs Lenz, Mrs Wollschlaen, Mrs E. Züllig and child, Dr. Evers, Capt. F. Jseke, Messrs J. Lambert, F. G. Wallace, P. Schalthofer, Schoinan and F. H. Höhnke.

Per *Nile*, for Hongkong, from London, Mr and Mrs H. P. Tooker, Mr and Mrs Frost and 2 infants, Mrs and Misses (2) Lander, Mrs Thornhill and 2 infants, Mrs J. Badeley, 2 children and amah, Mrs Messer and infant, Miss Rodgers, Miss J. C. Morris, Miss Glover (Governess), Miss K. Sackie, Miss Fernie, Misses (2) Hunter, Miss Dunn, Rev. J. A. Baker, Bishop of Victoria, Capt. T. C. Leach, Dr J. H. Luchler, Sergt. McKnight, Messrs T. G. Worth, R. Cannell, Anderson, J. MacLeod and P. H. Wilks; from Singapore, Messrs W. S. Hone, R. A. Gowen and Warnford-Lock; from London, for Shanghai, Mr and Mrs MacKenzie, Mr and Mrs Wm. Dutton and infant, Rev. and Mrs A. J. Walker, infant and nurse, Mrs Jackson, infant and nurse, Mrs H. Simpson, Mrs Porter, Miss Carleton, A. Corbett, Miss Hough, Rev. C. D. Little, Messrs P. Smith, McCall's governess and 2 children, W. Kinfu, T. J. Mellows and A. Mackenzie; for Nagasaki, Mr and Mrs R. F. Inman, infant and amah; for Kobe, Misses (3) C., M. and G. Malabar, Messrs R. F. A. and Robt Malabar; for Yokohama, Mrs Warnford-Lock and Miss Holford; from Singapore, for Shanghai, Mr H. V. Dawson.

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